

# The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 108, No. 1

Thursday, September 10, 2009

Since 1905

## College cuts late-night care Parton Health Center ends service after 9 p.m.

By Anthony Adragna  
NEWS EDITOR

Following the sudden change in nursing schedules in conjunction with the financial crisis less than a month before the fall semester began, the College opted to follow through with a long-considered proposal to close Parton Health Center during evening hours.

Students will see the reduction in hours effective for the fall term. The health center will remain open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week, following the established schedule. There will be a nurse available until 9 p.m. On the weekends, the health center will be open from noon to 4 p.m.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz said the sudden departure of a nurse from her position and the difficulty of replacing her forced the College to accelerate its timeline for the closure of Parton.

"The whole nursing situation has been a challenge for many years," Liebowitz said. "[Closing the health center] is not a strictly financial issue."

Dean of Students Gus Jordan said that while the decision to close the health center was made recently,

the proposal had been in the works for an extended period of time.

"During the middle of last year we began talking about this and looking at Parton utilization and we were realizing that we are spending a lot of money keeping the health center open 24 hours a day when it has very low use for medical problems," Jordan said.

Jordan said that students are the primary group of people responsible for their experience on campus as they remain continually here. Part of that responsibility to the community is assisting other students in need.

"[Students] are the principal people for overlooking each other's relationships and behaviors, socially and residentially, and students need to be mature and healthy in those relationships," he said. "We want to facilitate that process and we want to make sure that we don't have policies that get in the way of doing that."

Data taken by the College backed up claims that Parton was rarely used for medical problems during the evening.

"About four percent of non-alcohol related contacts happen at night,"

Jordan said. "Most of those are not actually medical emergencies. They were things that easily waited to tend to until the next morning."

Laura Williams '11, first year counselor, pointed to the practical difficulties in the policy.

"In reality, finding a reliable, sober friend who can be trusted to truly care for the inebriated student will be extremely difficult," she said. "I believe that the new policy, closing the health center on weekend evening nights, puts students at risk."

Further data reveals that the use of the health center to treat alcohol-related problems is overstated. In a report from the College with data for the 2008-9 academic year through April 2009, 149 students went to the health center for alcohol-related problems.

Of those visits to the health center, the vast majority involved patients who were underclassmen. 53 of the visits came from first-years while 43 sophomores also went to Parton for treatment. Visits by upperclassmen were down. 26 juniors and 16 seniors

SEE OLD CHAPEL, PAGE 4

## OINK keeps spirit of MOO alive

By Cloe Shasha  
STAFF WRITER

During the first two weekends of classes, 169 first-year students will be participating in hiking, canoeing, climbing and trail maintenance trips with OINK (Outdoor Introduction for New Kids). One of these students, Emily Galindo '13, is looking forward to her trip for both the outdoor exploration and the social opportunities of hiking. She thinks that the trips will serve as an icebreaker on campus among the first-year students.

"I think it will be great to be able to meet new people my second weekend of classes after I've already settled in and made other friends," she said. "I am also excited about get-

ting to know the trails surrounding the Middlebury campus so that I can take advantage of them later."

Now that MMC (Middlebury Mountain Club) has finished the OINK planning process for the class of 2013, the next big challenge for the coordinators will be to find program planners for future years. OINK head coordinator Gita Eglite '09.5 is already thinking about this search because she will graduate this coming February.

"Whoever is going to be in charge for next year needs to have a summer job on campus the way I did, since planning OINK is a non-paid position," she said. "Although I'm graduating in February, I'm planning on staying on campus during the

spring term. So I'm going to try and find someone from the Mountain Club who will be willing to coordinate OINK next summer, and I will show them what needs to be done."

MMC president Ben Meader '10.5 is hoping that the College will eventually fund MOO (Middlebury Outdoor Orientation) or MiddView again, the fall outdoor orientation programs that, because of the College's budget reorganization, stopped running after the fall of 2008. Until then, MMC will try to lead OINK trips for as many first-years as possible with the budget that they can get. For OINK, MMC prepared about 20 guides for 11 trips per weekend with

SEE OUTDOOR, PAGE 5

## Job attrition leads to early Atwater closure

By Kara Shurmantine  
NEWS EDITOR

An unanticipated acceleration in the employee attrition rate at Atwater dining hall this year led Dining Services to transition early into the plan originally scheduled for spring semester: that is, the renovation and expansion of Proctor and Ross and the phasing out of Atwater as a full-fledged dining hall.

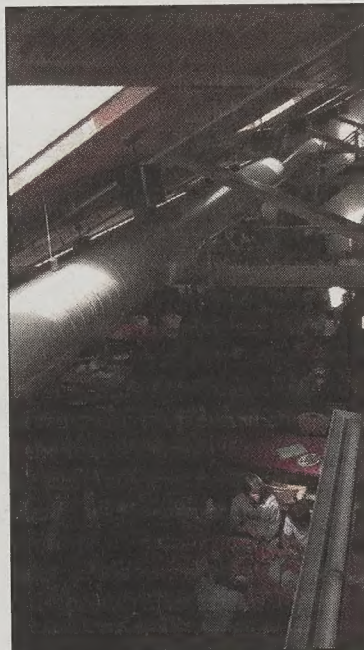
The increase in the number of unfilled positions, due to early retirement and other forms of turnover, meant that after the recent renovations on Proctor and Ross were completed late in the summer, Dining Services could transfer all dining

hall staff to the two remaining dining halls, leaving Atwater open only for weekday continental breakfast, Language Table meals and special events. The dining room located in Freeman International Center is closed for good.

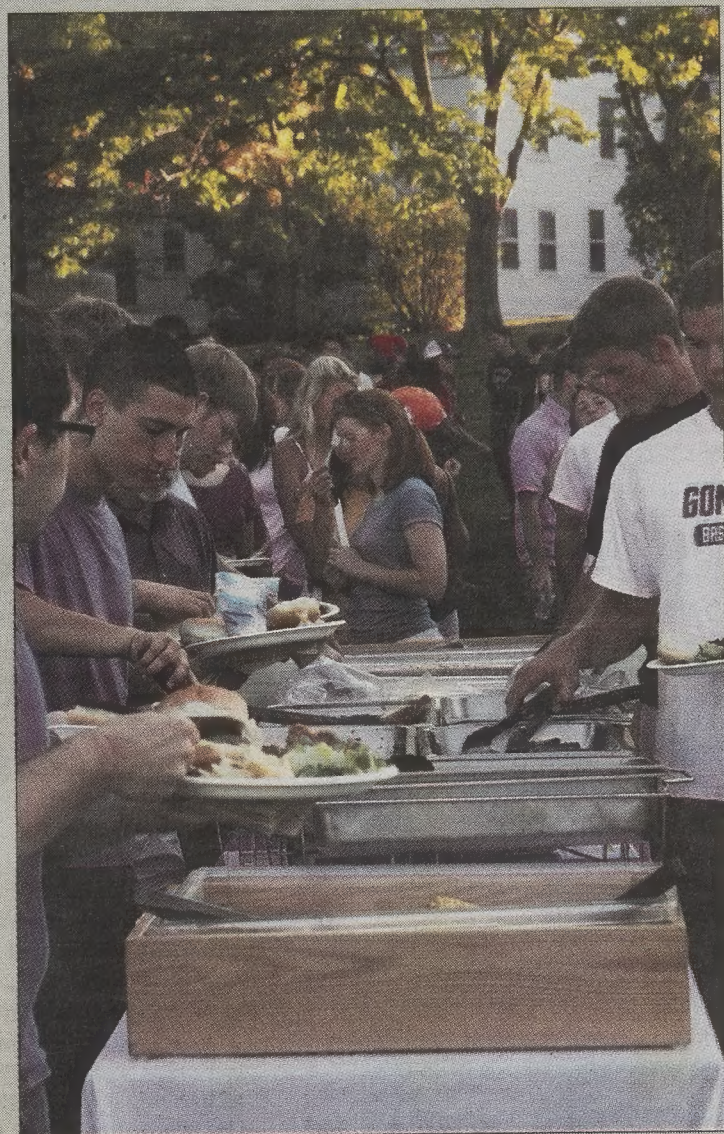
Due to the new renovations undertaken, Proctor and Ross are "able to handle the business" garnered by Atwater's early closure, said Matthew Biette, head of Dining Services.

"We would ... have [had] to hire a great deal of temporary workers to cover the needs" of keeping Atwater open an extra semester as planned, "which is counterintuitive,"

SEE PROCTOR, PAGE 2



Saila Huusko, Photo Editor  
Students enjoy their first meal in the renovated Proctor dining hall.



Saila Huusko, Photo Editor

### "BACK AT MIDD" TASTES GREAT TO STUDENTS

Students eagerly snap up various types of food offered at a picnic that ushered in the start of the fall semester on Sept. 6. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz spoke with students at the event, which took place the day before classes began.

## Alcohol policy takes new practical stance

By Anthony Adragna  
NEWS EDITOR

With the recently announced closure of Parton Health Center, the College has retooled its alcohol policy covering the citation system and the procedures for addressing potentially dangerous health situations caused by alcohol.

Under the old system, a Public Safety officer confronted with an intoxicated student had three ways to deal with the situation. The officer could release the student if he was not found intoxicated enough to cause concern. He could send the student to Porter Medical Center for serious medical emergencies. Finally, he could send the student to Parton Health Center.

The new policy leaves the first two options available to Public Safety. However, should a student appear drunk, but not enough so for immediate concern, the officer will attempt to find a 'sober friend,' someone of the same gender, to care for the student for the rest of the evening.

Should Public Safety fail to find a friend, they will locate a Commons Residential Advisor (CRA), who will then independently attempt to find the student a sober friend. In case this fails as well, the student will go

to a duty office located in the basement of Ross commons, where he will be cared for by two paid members of the residential life team.

The duty office would serve as a last resort; administrators do not foresee the office accommodating more than three visitors to the office on any given night. There is no timetable for the opening of the office.

In the meantime, while there is no office, Dean of Students Gus Jordan is confident that students will remain safe.

"The first-year counselors and the CRAs have all been through their own alcohol training program during residential life training," he said. "We spent hours talking about these issues. There are a number of people to assist us. We have five commons deans and me. I can be on campus in four minutes from where I live to assist in any ways that are necessary and I expect to be around and to come over to see how things are working as we move into the beginning of the semester."

Students, however, fear that the changes to the system will actually leave their peers more vulnerable and could lead to potentially dangerous situations.

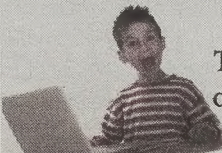
SEE SOBER, PAGE 3

this week



### Eat organic late

The Farmers Diner offers late night dining in Marbleworks, page 6.



### Like starting over

The College welcomes the Class of 2013 to campus for a week of orientation, page 12.

### Listen to the music

Meet the newly-hired director of the Middlebury College Orchestra, page 17.







## overseas briefing

by Ben Johnston '11

MUNICH — I'm here to say I'm glad German was the language that made me giggle. I never had a good reason for studying German. I just thought it sounded cool. I was so fascinated that people actually spoke a language with so much throat clearing and so many words seemingly invented by a committee of toddlers that I decided the only thing better than hearing it was understanding it.

The area around Munich, where I spent seven weeks this past summer, is essentially a more beautiful version of Vermont. Vermont has expanses of farmland, and Germany has shimmering fields of perfectly trimmed wheat. Vermont has the Green Mountains, and Germany has the Alps. Vermont has Key-stone, and Germany has Weißbier. Of course, every foreign country has ways to make you homesick. For example, I lived with a very nice, but uptight — by American standards — German family that didn't always help ease the stress of speaking German all the time. We also needed to pay many Euro both to obtain water at a restaurant and to get rid of it in a restroom.

One day in particular illustrates all the silliness, annoyance and awesomeness of my visit. The day started with frustration. I had woken up at 7:45 a.m. for an 8 a.m. train to Tegernsee, where two friends and I were to scale what's said to be one of the most beautiful mountains in Bavaria. I was not annoyed that I had woken up so early, or that I had almost missed my train, but that both of my friends did miss the train. As the doors closed, I began preparing myself for a lonely, depressing day in the Alps.

I found that the first part of the hike, albeit boring, was rather peaceful without the company of others. As I went on, though, I realized a growing problem. In my haste to get to the train station that morning, I had found no time to use the bathroom. It takes a while for one's body to adjust to foreign food, and in this case, my body was having trouble with my reduced fiber intake. I had only one option: to get to the hut — and the bathroom — at the summit as fast as possible.

I didn't make it. Not in a gross, disastrous way, but I didn't get to use a toilet. Instead, I did something I hadn't done in all of my years as a boy scout. I took a little tiny side trip. Surprisingly, I felt a large sense of accomplishment rather than embarrassment or disgust, and afterward things really started looking up. I reached the top, drank a half of the best beer of my life, and had the closest thing to a transcendental experience that I, a self-proclaimed math and science person, could have.

I was ready to get home by the end of the day, because I was fed up with not having anybody to spend time with while waiting hours for the bus and train. However, I realized that night that I had probably had the best single day of the trip. This sentiment is almost identical to how I feel right now about my summer. By the end of the trip, I was very tired of Germany with all of its stressful interactions and transactions and was extremely ready to go home. I see now, though, that I needed all of those hiccups to have the experience that I did, and it was one that I would repeat in a heartbeat. And, considering the potential embarrassment factor, I'm extremely glad that nobody came with me on that hike.

## Middbrief

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

### College raises funds in effort to replace Worth Mountain chairlift

The College decided this summer to replace the Worth Mountain chairlift at the Snow Bowl, a project with an estimated cost of \$1.7 million.

The chairlift being replaced no longer adheres to state licensing requirements, so the College decided replacing, instead of merely repairing, the 40-year-old lift was the smartest option.

"The lift that is being replaced is the primary lift on Worth Mountain and the operation of the ski area depends on fixing or replacing this lift," Vice President for College Advancement Mike Schoenfeld wrote in an e-mail. "As a business decision, it made much more sense to replace the lift than to make expensive repairs to enable us to use the 40-year old existing lift for a few more years."

The construction will be paid for with the renewal and replacement reserve, which sets aside \$8 million every year for

maintaining campus infrastructure. Because of the current economic struggles facing the College however, they hope to fundraise so the construction at the Snow Bowl has no direct impact on the fund.

Old Chapel has already raised \$925,000 for the lift, at what is still an early stage of the fundraising effort. The College plans to exceed their fundraising goal and will use excess money to create an operating endowment for the Snow Bowl.

The fundraising efforts include several creative, yet pricey, enticements, including 100 lifetime passes and naming rights to the 104 chairs for \$5,000 each, as well as naming rights to the 15 lift towers for \$50,000 each.

The new lift will be a triple chair, whereas the old Worth Mountain lift was a double chair. The lift should be operational in time for this winter's ski



Courtesy

season, as construction has already begun and should be completed by mid-November.

## Web site mockups draw mixed reviews

By Hilary Hall  
STAFF WRITER

White Whale, the Web design company working on the College's newest Web site update, unveiled mockup pages of the new design at a presentation held in McCullough Social Space on July 28 to mixed reactions from the College community. The new Web site mockup shows a colorful, bright page markedly different from the current classic white-and-blue site.

According to White Whale, the new design uses images of bars similar to Apple's iTunes coverflow. Each bar is a different color, and by clicking on an individual bar, the viewer will see a preview of a Middlebury "story," which could be anything from a photograph to a story from the College Web site. The stories aren't limited to the College — they would include the Schools Abroad, Language Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English, the Monterey Institute and "any other places where Middlebury's story is being told," as was stated in the presentation.

The designers at White Whale remarked in the unveiling description that the bar colors will correspond with seasonal Vermont shades and can change with various causes and events. Along the bottom of the page remain navigation links to the standard College pages.

Students, professors and staff members alike have expressed their excitement, resentment and disappointment over White Whale's changes in the online space reserved for comments.

Many had basic concerns, involving such issues as missing links to BannerWeb,

WebMail and the online directory, and others questioned the intentions behind the new Web site and its impact on the College community as well as prospective students and families.

"With all the other budget cuts, why can't we have one here?" wrote Anthony Kuchan '11 on the blog space devoted to comments. "I'd rather have a good meal than a fancy Web site."

"Awful," agreed a student who identified himself as "Midd Student." "What was wrong with the old one? We are a NESAC college, not an architecture firm or a Web design company — our Web site does not need to be so sleek or look like we are trying to be 'cool.' And I have a question — why, at a time like this, is Middlebury spending money on changing something that works just fine when funding for things like athletics and dining are being drastically cut back?"

Assistant Professor of Political Science James Morrison also questioned the use value of the site. "My bias is in favor of function over form," he said. "I think the design can be arresting but only if it is also intuitive."

Many others who disliked White Whale's mockup wondered why the designers chose to use a modern graphic when the campus itself makes a beautiful and appealing background.

"Middlebury boasts one of the most beautiful campuses in the world," observed a student identified as "David." "We don't have a photo on the homepage emphasizing that?"

The bottom does feature a wide aerial shot of campus, but those who echoed David's comment found it not large enough to do the College's campus justice. The focus, they

thought, was too much on the colored bars.

Still, there are a number of fans of the new Web site, as represented in the comments section, who comprise as strong a lobby as the site's opponents.

"Visually striking, impressively flexible," wrote Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature Brett Millier. "It balances nicely the needs of its various audiences — and stories are an effective way of conveying what is possible here."

"As long as the identity/mission is communicated through the stories, I think it will work well," said Jeff Cason, dean of International Programs and Knox Professor of International Studies and Politics. "I think it's fine to go with something more abstract."

In response, Jason Pontius from White Whale remarked that he has never seen such strong reactions to a mock-up. He tried to offer some words of comfort to those who take issue with the new site.

"I know it can be frustrating to look at a Web site as a series of static images, instead of a living, breathing, working environment," he said. "It's frustrating for us too, and we're looking forward to building it out more so you can really get a sense of how it's going to work in practice."

How White Whale plans to engage the many site audiences, or perhaps compromise their varied needs, remains to be seen, but one thing is for sure: the company, along with Middlebury's liaisons, are actively seeking the community's help. They have set up an anonymous e-mail for feedback and have had an intern do a live chat; the comment site, linked from MiddBlog, is still open to feedback.

## Proctor and Ross to offer similar meals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

he added.

Atwater's absence during hot breakfast, lunch and dinner hours is not the only change in store this year. On weekdays, Ross is the only place on campus where students can find hot breakfast. According to Biette, this decision — unanticipated by many — is simply a return to a dining services tradition.

"Proctor has been serving a continental breakfast for years," said Biette. "Being closed last year, people may have forgotten that. Students have a choice of hot (Ross) or cold (Proctor) as in the past."

In addition to the breakfast change, the two remaining dining halls are now bigger than ever: Proctor has 630 seats and Ross has 460. Contrary to the worries of some students regarding crowding issues in two dining halls instead of three, seating capacities this year will actually exceed what was available in the past. This year, the net seating capacity for all

dining halls on campus is 1,090 — 15 more than in the years before the Proctor renovation, and 260 more than last year.

But, to many, the potential for long lines is still a concern, particularly when an offering in one dining hall (for example, hot breakfast

same. If one is serving chicken, the other is, and so on." Particularly popular items, such as chicken parmesan, will be offered at both dining halls at the same time; popular theme nights, such as Asian, will also be offered concurrently but not necessarily with identical

menus. Balancing the offerings between the two dining halls will conceivably reduce overcrowding and balance dining hall attendance.

All of these changes are part of the College's plan to cut costs as a result of the recent economic downturn.

"Our changing from three to two [dining halls] is an answer to control spending, yet still provide the level of quality and service many have come to expect," said Biette. "It is important here to know that we are all making adjustments and have to adjust to a new way of life."

### We are all making adjustments and have to adjust to a new way of life.

— Matthew Biette

at Ross) is preferable to an offering in the other. Unlike in past years, when all three dining halls would offer unique meals every day, this year meals offered in Proctor and Ross on any given night will have more similarities.

These menu changes are "based on our two dining room model and on the fiscal climate of the College and our world," said Biette. "The [sources of] proteins will be similar in each dining room but not necessarily the



# College explores alumni donation trends

By Tim O'Grady  
STAFF WRITER

A breakdown of alumni donations to Middlebury shows geography and age definitely play a role in who chooses to financially support the College every year.

Middlebury alumni from the Boston area were the most generous this past fiscal year, with a 63 percent giveback rate, whereas alumni in the Los Angeles chapter had the lowest participation, at 45 percent. Alumni from the Class of 1943 had the highest participation percentage out of all past graduating classes, with about 88 percent of the class donating money.

The College's alumni participation rate had been hovering at around 50 percent when the Alumni Participation Challenge was first proposed in 2004. An anonymous alumnus challenged Middlebury to increase the percentage of alumni who give financial gifts to the College, promising \$1 million annually, for five sequential years, if the College was able to gradually increase alumni participation one percentage point every year.

The first year's goal was set at 51 percent, which was ultimately surpassed by 5 percent. The following years' goals were set at 57, 58, 59 and 60 percent, respectively — all of which were either met or surpassed.

The College exceeded its 2009 goal of 60 percent participation by two percent.

"We've used a variety of tools and messages — direct mail, emails, video, flash and slideshows [and] phonathon calls — to ensure that alumni understand how much the College needs their support," said Susan Regier, Director of Annual Giving.

The College raised over \$13 million from alumni, parent and friend donations to reach the 62 percent alumni giveback rate. For the first time, Middlebury had the highest rates for giving among peer institutions such as Swarthmore, Amherst and Williams, all of whom hovered around 58 and 62 percent for alumni giving.

"Reaching [62 percent] in alumni participation places our alma mater in rarefied air among peer institutions and clearly demonstrates that Midd alumni are a very special breed," wrote Bobo Sidell '77, Chair of the Annual Fund Executive Committee, in a July 1 letter thanking alums for their financial contributions.

According to Regier the average university in the United States has a very low alumni giveback rate, with most universities barely reaching 10 percent. Among Middlebury's peer schools — 40 small liberal arts colleges similar in size and endowment — the average participation rate is 43 percent.

Small, prestigious liberal arts colleges tend to have a much higher alumni giveback rate as compared to the national average. In addition, alums from these colleges tend to have formed more personal relationships with faculty and staff and volunteered more regularly than students who attended large universities.

Alumni donations make up about eight percent of the College's annual operating costs. The main goal of the alumni challenge was to draw attention to the fact that every donation helps Middlebury achieve its mission to be a top liberal arts college.

In keeping with the College's commitment to academic excellence, much of the alumni donations are allocated toward faculty salaries, financial aid and funding for student-faculty research.

Building maintenance and renovations are not reliant on current alumni donations, as there is a separate facility maintenance fund already set up by the College. Several construction projects, such as the Main Library — completed in 2004 — and McCordell Bicentennial Hall — completed in 2000 — were both fully funded by individual donors. New buildings must be completely funded by individual donors, with extra money set aside for future maintenance and upkeep costs.

## college shorts

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

### Harvard keeps students away from journalists

A new policy at Harvard Medical School limiting interaction between students and the news media is being reconsidered in the wake of questions about the policy's intent.

"This is one of many ways that medical education implicitly teaches behaviors that differ significantly from the values that we hope physicians will uphold," wrote Nate Favini, chairman of the Student Council Advisory Board in an e-mail. "Instead of limiting students, we should encourage bold thinking and allow them to advocate for the reforms that our health care system so badly needs."

The policy was passed in February after *The New York Times* featured Harvard medical students in an article but was not circulated until two weeks ago.

Students believe the policy's intention is to keep them silent on issues of medical conflicts of interest, and Gina Vild, associate dean for communications and external relations, acknowledged that, as currently phrased, the media policy may be open to misunderstanding. "We certainly will revise it and look forward to doing so with student input, ensuring that it reflects the fact that we unequivocally respect the right of students to speak out for change and explore new ideas," said Vild.

— *The New York Times*

### University battles copy-cat "Naughty" university

National American University has dropped a lawsuit against Naughty American University, a pornographic company that runs a Web site nearly identical to the higher education institution's own Web site.

The university, which runs campuses in 16 locations across the U.S. and offers online courses, raised the suit because they believed the appearance of the company's site infringed on their trademark. The pornographic company's owners agreed to cease and desist, leading the university to drop the case.

— *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

### Bikes and beer featured in Colorado's Tour de Fat

Since 2000, Colorado State University (CSU) students have been loyal participants in the Tour de Fat, a playful take on the more popular Tour de France hosted by the local New Belgium Brewery, located near CSU's campus. The race features around 10,000 participants biking in outlandish costumes through Fort Collins, Colo., where both the university and the brewery are located.

"I remember I was at work last year when I saw the mass of people riding by in full costume," recalled student Brandi Redwine. "I had no idea what the hell was going on."

Participants must sign a liability waiver in order to participate, and after a bike parade through town, the tipsy cyclists can enjoy food, live music and other entertainment. This year the Tour de Fat will visit 11 communities in the West, in order to promote the positive effects that accompany choosing a bicycle over a motor vehicle.

"It's important to remember that we're here to celebrate the bicycle," said Bryan Simpson, New Belgium spokesperson. "The beer is just in the background."

— *Rocky Mountain Collegian*

## 'Sober friends' promote safety in numbers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I believe that the new policy of closing the health center on weekend evening nights puts students at risk," said Laura Williams '11, a first-year counselor this year. "Medically untrained individuals, whether they be residential life staff or sober friends, will be making important medical decisions that have severe implications for individual students and the community as a whole."

Matt LaBunka '10.5, an EMT, said if he was faced with a dangerously intoxicated student while not officially working, he would not treat the student.

"Even as an EMT, I would call Public Safety because I don't want that responsibility on me," he said. "There's no protection for liability."

Other students pointed to the emotional consequences students could face should anything happen to their friends.

"Medically, students aren't trained to deal with their drunk friends," said Thea Morrison '10.5, a former FYC. "How bad are they going to feel if something happens to their friend? I can't believe they'd put that responsibility on students."

Certain groups of students, including those affiliated with residential life, are scared about the potential situations that could arise under the new policies.

"The new alcohol policy requires a significant shift in campus drinking culture," said Williams.

"Though it makes sense to encourage students to take responsibility for themselves and their friends, most students assume that the health center will be there as a safety net. Unnecessary trips to the hospital on one end of the spectrum, and inadequate care given by friends or residential life staff on the other end, will likely result from the changes."

Members of the administration instead argue that the new policies are merely continuations of current practices on campus that will not pose any unnecessary risks to students providing care to friends. Instead, the changes mark a shift in the College's philosophy toward social life.

President of the College Ronald D. Li-

ebowitz argued that the old system, where students felt free to misbehave without learning individual responsibility, was a factor in the high cost of tuition.

"At what point do you stop complaining about \$50,000 a year and recognize that every time you make a criticism like this it helps to explain why we have \$50,000 a year?" he said. "The expectation is that our students will be free to act in any irresponsible way but we will provide the resources, 24/7, to make sure they don't hurt themselves."

Jordan expressed hope that the new policies and the change in philosophy would rein-

"We want to uphold the laws of Vermont," he said. "We do so and we intend to do so, but our energy and focus must be on destructive drinking and that personal destruction and community destruction that results when people drink way too much alcohol. We want to make sure people aren't behind closed doors, drinking to excess and then wandering off alone into a snowbank or river."

Liebowitz thinks the decades-old belief that increased surveillance could stop underage drinking has long been disproved and believes the emphasis should be on safety.

"[Curbing underage drinking] is going to require a lot more than full-time surveillance of students on what is illegal but non-destructive drinking," he said. "I think it's foolish to believe that you're going to stop kids — 18, 19, 20 years old — from social drinking."

Jordan said students would not assume any legal liability from serving as a 'sober friend' to another student and said Public Safety would send a student to Porter as soon as a situation became dangerous.

"They are saying, 'I'm willing to stay with this friend to make sure they are OK for the next few hours until they're up and about, past this certain intense intoxication period,'" he said. "That could be a few hours, or it could be all night. There's not a legal liability for anybody. It's much more practical than that."

Liebowitz believes that age and maturity play a decisive role in how students drink, pointing to trends he noticed in students who studied abroad.

"Seeing students who studied abroad, it was like they transcended a generation," he said. "I don't mean that in any condescending way to students here. There is something to responsibility. Sooner or later there's not going to be a Middlebury College to do all this for them when they step out into the world."

Still, Liebowitz stressed the administration would work to balance the need to emphasize personal responsibility while still ensuring the continued safety of students. He added that he, too, shares concerns for the well being of students.

"I have concerns about students every night," he said. "It's what keeps me awake. It's my biggest concern — that's not a joke because anything can happen."

Jordan stressed that the policy changes are not final, and that he would be happy to meet with students to discuss the changes. Interested students should send an e-mail to jordan@middlebury.edu or make an appointment with his office.

## We want to make sure people aren't behind closed doors, drinking to excess.

— Gus Jordan

force the goals of the College.

"If you look carefully, I think you will see that each of these decisions reinforces our goals with respect to all of the student life policies that we have," he said. "How do we create stronger communities, better friendships, greater senses of leadership and responsibilities for one another?"

Liebowitz said he hoped the new policy would allow students to take ownership of their actions.

## I can't believe they'd put that responsibility on students.

—Thea Morrison '10.5

"We want to encourage students to look out for one another, as many now claim they do, but to do so a little more broadly: not having parties in a certain way and being responsible for your attendees, as well as not traveling alone to parties," he said.

Another change to the social life policies will affect the citation system. Previously, a student would be forced to leave campus after five citations. Now, there is no set penalty for each situation. Instead, greater discretion now rests with the commons deans regarding proper disciplinary procedures.

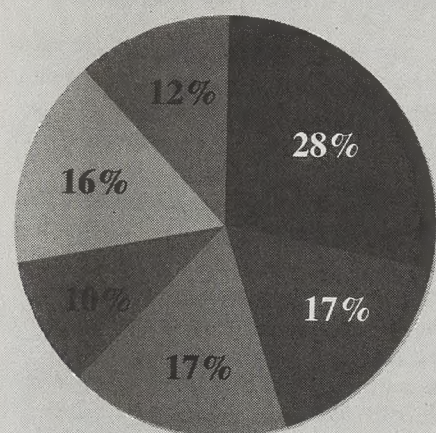
Jordan believes the new policy takes a practical stance toward dealing with the dangers of alcohol on a college campus.



## budget download:

An inside look into the new cuts and changes across campus

### College Expenses 2008-9



- Instruction
- Student Services
- Financial Aid
- Maintenance and Equipment
- Other (Planning, Auxiliaries, etc.)
- Institutional Support

Right before classes ended last May, the Budget Oversight Committee released a new list of budget cuts for this year. Here's a breakdown of what cuts to watch out for this fall.

\* **Athletics** — All non-essential travel has been eliminated, and crew is now a Level II club sport that only receives funding for a coach.

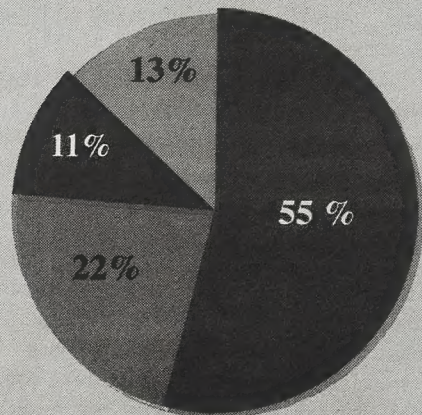
\* **Arts** — The Museum of Art budget has been cut by 10 percent, all technical and production staff will be under supervision of one administrator and the College plans to consolidate staffing at the museum and the Center for the Arts.

\* **Dining** — Atwater only provides continental breakfast and a venue for Language Tables, and the College will develop a more flexible meal plan with multiple options that will be implemented in the future.

\* **Auxiliary operations** — Middlebury's other campuses are urged to maintain balanced budgets and study abroad sites may be used to host Alumni Colleges and conferences in order to create revenue.

\* **Misc.** — Expenditures at the President's House have been cut by 50 percent, and the College will end its relationship with *The New England Review* if it does not eliminate its current operating deficit by Dec. 31, 2009.

### College Revenue 2008-9



- Undergraduate Fees
- Endowment
- Gifts, Campaigns, and Short-Term
- Auxiliary Programs

## Middbrief

by Anthony Adragna, News Editor

The College advanced to an all-time high position of fourth on the annual *U.S. News and World Report* rankings of the best liberal arts colleges this year.

While many in the College's administration decry the rankings as deeply flawed and refuse to use them in promotional materials, they are, at least informally, pleased with the new status.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz said the College will continue its pledge not to use the rankings to promote the school, and that the administration would be managing the institution counterintuitively if it wanted to move up in the rankings.

"I'd rather be 4 than 11," he said. "I did sign an agreement not to use rankings in any promotional way, and we have not. We have not managed the institution according to the rankings, and in fact have managed it in some counterintuitive ways. Four years ago, we began reporting 99 percent of SAT scores, rather than the 52 percent that represented the scores chosen to be used by our applicants ... and our 25th-75th percentile scores went down, as predicted. We needed to report them all, because that is who we are."

Dean of Admissions Robert Clagett acknowledged his satisfaction that those compiling

the rankings recognize the value of a Middlebury education.

"It's always better to be higher than lower," he said. "It's clearly great to have our liberal arts education at Middlebury recognized as among the best in the country."

Liebowitz added that an additional benefit of a higher ranking was that international students tend to read the rankings; therefore, a higher ranking would raise the visibility of the school internationally.

The *U.S. News* website included an estimated comprehensive fee for Middlebury of \$50,780, which was over \$10,000 more than that of the other schools on the list. Clagett attributed this difference to the fact that the other schools did not include room and board in their comprehensive fees.

Clagett said that the rankings are flawed because they can attract students to the College for the wrong reasons.

"Our concern is that it can detract students from thinking about fit," he said. The rankings purport to quantify the quality of a college education in a way that, in reality, is impossible to do, as it hinges on whether students take advantage of opportunities available at that college."

In addition to the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, the College has recently appeared in various other publications. *The Princeton Review* placed the College second in the "Best Study Abroad Program" category and 14th in both "Best Campus Food" and "Best Career Services." The College was second in "School Runs Like Butter" and sixth in "Students Study the Most."

The College also made *The Princeton Review's* Green Honor Roll, and was one of only 15 schools to obtain that honor. The Sierra Club ranked Middlebury third on their "Cool Schools" list, an honor for schools with excellent green programs. The College was number one last year.

*Forbes Magazine* ranked the College at 25th this year in their list, a fall from the 17th spot last year. The list draws from both liberal arts and larger institutions. The United States Naval Academy was number one.

Clagett said the rankings suggest that the educational community continues to value a Middlebury education and believes the trend will continue.

"Based on everything we've seen so far, Middlebury will continue to be one of the most sought-after liberal arts colleges because of our excellent faculty and facilities," he said.

## Old Chapel defends Parton closure

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also went to the Parton for alcohol treatment.

Very few of these cases involved students with serious health problems, limiting the necessity of the center's services.

"It was a convenience for us, and an important convenience," said Jordan. "Most cases that showed up to Parton were with a blood alcohol content of less than 0.24. Most of them were less than that. It was very rare that we would have a student with so much alcohol in their system that they were in medical danger."

In spite of the data, many students expressed concern about the possibility of having to provide medical care to friends. Andy Mittelman '08, Commons Residential Advisor (CRA) of Cook Commons in 2008-9, thinks the decision will place the burden on students and Public Safety to make important medical decisions.

"Without medical professionals on campus, the students, Residential Life staff and Public Safety officers will now be forced to make decisions bearing far more health repercussions and legal liability than ever before," he said. "Without the health center, we are now entrusting potentially at-risk students to well-intentioned but untrained friends."

Mittelman pointed out that the College would not allow untrained students to deal with other facets of campus life.

"The College wouldn't permit untrained 'sober friends' to work in the athletic trainer's office or respond to injuries on campus," he said. "I don't understand why they are differentiating between these incidents and the potentially serious complications of alcohol poisoning."

Liebowitz said that the closure, which could lead to more students visiting Porter Medical Center, had been cleared with the local hospital.

"I had a meeting with Jim Daley [of Porter]," he said. "We talked about these issues and

they are more than ready. They understand what these issues are. The management team wants to help out. It's the workers at Porter who have to deal with sometimes unruly students and who feel the pressure."

The decision is not without precedent. Williams College decided to end their 24-hour health services in 2003, and despite a series of protests, the decision has been successful. Middlebury was the only school in their peer group besides Bates College to operate a 24-hour health center.

Liebowitz acknowledged that some groups would likely call the decision irresponsible in light of the death of Nick Garza two years ago, but stressed he had received many more opinions in the opposite direction, urging the College to stop providing resources to students and emphasizing personal responsibility.

"[Some parents] thought I didn't go far enough," he explained, "and communicated to me that, as a parent who just dropped off a first-year and heard me discuss alcohol in the parents' question-and-answer session that I should feel comfortable telling parents that it is their

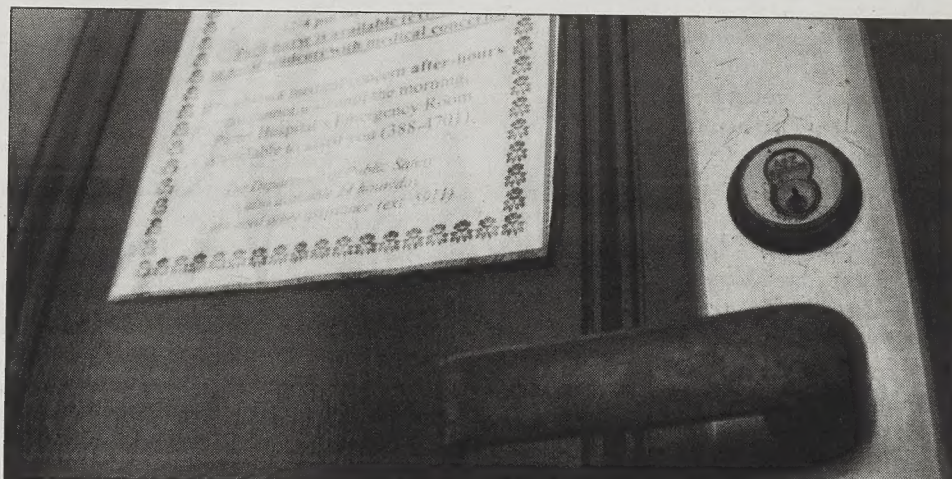
responsibility to prepare their children to come to this wonderful environment and understand their limitations instead of relying on [others] to do the job."

Jordan offered the Language Schools as an example of the College not providing 24-hour health services without any serious consequences.

"You can have thousands of people on campus 24 hours a day and not need a 24-hour health center, because we have Porter for any kind of emergencies," he said. "We've had no programs with summer language students managing their health during the summer months. That doesn't mean people in Language Schools don't consume alcohol."

Despite the concerns, Liebowitz believes the school will not suffer any negative repercussions from the closure.

"You're never comfortable taking away 'services' that assist students, but in this case I can't think of anyone who sat down and discussed the issue who didn't think this was something we could do," he said.



Andrew Ngoew, Photo Editor

Students hoping for late night care at Parton will be met by a closed door and a referral to Porter.

## public safety log

August 30 - September 10, 2009

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
8/30/2009	7:45 p.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machines	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
8/31/2009	7:55 p.m.	Burglary	Residence	Pearsons	Referred to Dean of the College and commons deans
9/4/2009	12:13 a.m.	Theft	Cable	Lang	Referred to Dean of the College and commons deans
9/5/2009	11:57 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Mahaney Center for the Arts	Referred to Dean of the College and commons deans
9/5/2009	12:30 a.m.	Trespassing	Residence	Stewart	Referred to Dean of the College and commons deans
9/5/2009	10:28 p.m.	Unlawful Possession	Drugs	Palmer	Referred to Dean of the College and commons deans
9/6/2009	12:08 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Fletcher	Referred to Dean of College and commons deans

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 alcohol citations between April 28, 2009 and May 4, 2009.



# Outdoor orientation extends into school year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

169 first-year participants, as compared to 250 participants for MOO and MiddView in the past.

"One of the College's concerns is that programs like OINK often don't include everyone," said Meader. "In order to be able to do that, a much larger scale program is necessary. So OINK is not really enough to meet student demand and stretches our club to the maximum."

This year, the College did not agree to sponsor OINK, although they supported the idea. In comparison to the budget for MOO and MiddView, the program coordinated by OINK runs on a significantly smaller sum of \$6,000 from the SGA Finance Committee, with an additional contribution of about \$8,000 from the participation fee paid by the first-year students. Working with this amount was possible for MMC because all coordinators were working voluntarily.

One OINK participant's mother, Helen Bryenton, was really impressed by the OINK student coordinators' ability to organize the program without the College's intervention. She is very excited for her son to get an outdoor experience.

"I think this trip is going to help him, coming from Tennessee, to be in the outdoors in a different way — in a different climate and with

different scenery," she said. "We stay inside in Tennessee because the air is too hot and it's bad, so we're encouraging him to take advantage of

was available."

In order to find students to lead these trips, the OINK coordinators recruited as many current MMC guides as possible.

"They were generally excited to lead OINK trips," MMC member Paul Hildebrand '11 said. "We also encouraged other students, particularly first-years, to become MMC guides last spring so that they could lead OINK trips. We had an excellent re-

sponse."

Becoming an MMC guide is in itself an intricate process. Each student must participate

One of the canoe trip leaders, Christian Woodard '11, believes that the OINK leaders will be able to provide the knowledge, experience and foresight to keep the trip fun and safe. He had a great experience with his MOO leaders during his first year outdoor orientation.

"Personally, being connected with the leaders from my MOO trip gave me a group of friends that I was able to plug into on campus," Woodard said. "We'll do everything that we can to keep the program alive on our extremely limited budget and will hopefully involve the College more fully in the future. Both MOO and FOO originated on empty budgets with a group of dedicated students to lead and organize so we can keep that tradition alive."

Overall, MMC students are very happy with the work they put into OINK, and they are grateful to everyone who helped them make it happen. Although it was frustrating and overwhelming at times, they also felt that it was a very rewarding process.

"We hope that through persistence and petition —

along with the success of an interim program — the College will decide to support an outdoor orientation in the near future," said Meader. "We think that the College should consider an all inclusive MOO with a heavier review of budget costs. The program might be executed more economically and still meet demand."

**We think that the College should consider an all-inclusive MOO.**

**—Ben Meader '10.5**

a different part of the country with many more outdoor opportunities."

Eglite was well prepared to take the lead as the primary OINK planner after serving as student coordinator for MOO for two years.

"Outdoor orientation is one of the reasons that some people come to Middlebury," Eglite said. "MMC wanted to find a way to fund the program so that we could keep the tradition going."

The Center for Campus Activities and Leadership office offered workspace to the coordinators, and Outdoor Programs Director Derek Doucet helped the students get a link for OINK on the class of 2013 orientation website, which helped attract attention to the program.

"For MOO, the fee was between \$130-\$150," said Eglite. "But for OINK we asked students to pay \$90 to participate, and financial aid

**Outdoor orientation is one of the reasons that some people come to Middlebury.**

**—Gita Eglite '10**

A M E R I C A N  
**FLATBREAD**

at the MARBLE WORKS

now

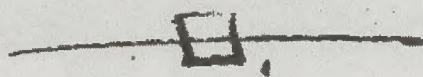
**ACCEPTING  
RESERVATIONS**

for  
Parents Weekend  
at Middlebury College

Fri, Oct 2  
Sat, Oct 3

CONTACT DANIELLE FOR RESERVATIONS:

DANIELLE@AMERICANFLATBREAD.COM OR 388-3300



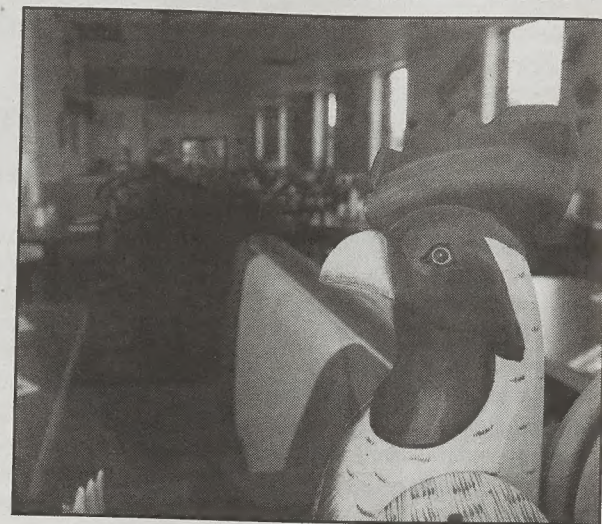
**ALWAYS OPEN TUES-SAT, 5-9pm**

AMERICANFLATBREAD.COM



## Welcome to yesteryear.

Mention the Farmers Diner article the week after September 10 and receive a free order of hush puppies, polenta fries or gravy fries.



## Welcome to the Farmers Diner.

By Lea Calderon-Guthe  
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

With its red vinyl booths, black plastic tables and almost too charming décor, you might think you have dialed back the clock 50 years when you walk into Middlebury's newest restaurant and late-night nosh space. But the Farmers Diner takes more than its appearance from a page of the vintage book — it is retro in practice, too. Eighty-three cents of every food dollar the restaurant spends goes somewhere within a 70-mile radius, similar to the days when the family farm reigned supreme and almost everything we ate was local because it had to be. Times have changed, but Tod Murphy is striving to turn back the trend as he and fellow co-owner Denise Perras streamline their newest diner to appeal to the Middlebury community, especially the recently returned student population.

"Co-ops have been the one place where things really worked and you could buy from a bunch of vendors, and farmers' markets, but even as much as those two segments are growing, they still can't even compare to supermarkets and restaurants," said Murphy. "So I thought about, 'Where's a place that everybody would feel welcome, where you didn't have to have a certain political mindset and could still use a lot of products that farmers have a hard time using?'"

It all began 12 years ago when Murphy was raising veal calves and trying to sell the meat to local chefs. While the chefs wanted to buy locally, they did not understand why there were not three new cases of veal cutlets each week.

"It became obvious that there was a problem between what the farmers were producing and what the people could figure out how to buy," said Murphy. "There are no local or regional brands any more for farmers to produce for, and chefs don't have any understanding any more of how to deal with quality and consistency issues in local food."

After a tiny 50-seat startup operation went well in Barre, Vt., in 2006 Murphy opened the Farmers Diner in Quechee, Vt. to replace the Barre location with Perras' help. The Middlebury location, which opened in June, is the second of a possible four locations in Vermont because, as Murphy said, people in Middlebury already "get it," but he and Perras will not confine the Farmers Diner family to Vermont. Their current plans involve expanding to the San Francisco Bay area and potentially the Hudson Valley.

Growing their company is about education for Perras and Murphy, which fits well with their new location in a college town, explained Murphy. The more restaurants they open, the more models they will have for other companies to follow suit. Education is not just important at the corporate level, however.

"Local food is a lot like religion," said Murphy. "We have a missionary approach to it. Customers who come in who just don't have a full understanding of local food will get to see what's going on and taste the difference, so we get to educate that way."

Perras elaborated on what it is that customers often "don't get" about local food.

"We're trying to reconnect consumers with the farmers so that they can understand why it is that our chicken sandwiches are more expensive than beef — there's just a huge dis-

connect. People need to understand that chicken, when the farmer's living a decent life and the chicken is living a decent life, costs more than beef."

As Perras and Murphy educate the public on the benefits of local food, local farmers are beginning to reap those same benefits. Jeff and Alithia Bahnck of Vermont Heritage Grazers, who provide both the Quechee diner and the Middlebury diner with most of their eggs, are just one example of the impact the Middlebury Farmers Diner has made even in just the three months it has been open.

"The timing was perfect," said Jeff Bahnck. "We had just gotten our flock [of chickens] when they were opening the Farmers Diner in Middlebury, so from the onset we were supplying them with eggs. Without the Farmers Diner, we would probably still be trying to pawn eggs at different places. Now I sell every egg I produce — sometimes I'm short of eggs — and I get 33 dozen eggs a day from my chickens!"

Many other local farmers, including Monument Dairy in Weybridge, Champlain Orchards in Shoreham and Ben Gleeson, who grows wheat for the hops in Otter Creek Brewery beer, have also benefitted from a relationship with Murphy and Perras. But the farmers do not just sell to the diner — they buy from it, too.

"[My wife and I] go there as much as we can," said Bahnck. "We've heard some negative stuff about it being expensive, but people that say it's expensive really don't know what they're talking about. If you compare the food you're getting at the Farmers Diner to Applebee's or something, it's less [environmentally] costly than Applebee's, you're getting much better food and you're supporting the local economy."

The fact that Bahnck and his fellow farmers are regular customers is a great source of pride for Murphy and Perras

because it means they have brought the local food trend to the family level. Previously it had seen the most success at the gourmet level where restaurants could easily afford the highest quality local products, but the many awards the Farmers Diner has won over the last three years prove that local food can make it small-time, too.

As far as engaging the community in Middlebury, Perras and Murphy have already hosted book signings with local authors, served as a venue for several bands and been a stop on the Friday Arts Walk. Currently they have Farmers' Fat Tuesdays (held on Wednesdays because the diner is closed on Tuesdays) where 10 percent of their proceeds on that day go to any nonprofit organization that signs up and they are in the process of booking bands for Sunday mornings as part of the Blues for Breakfast concert series.

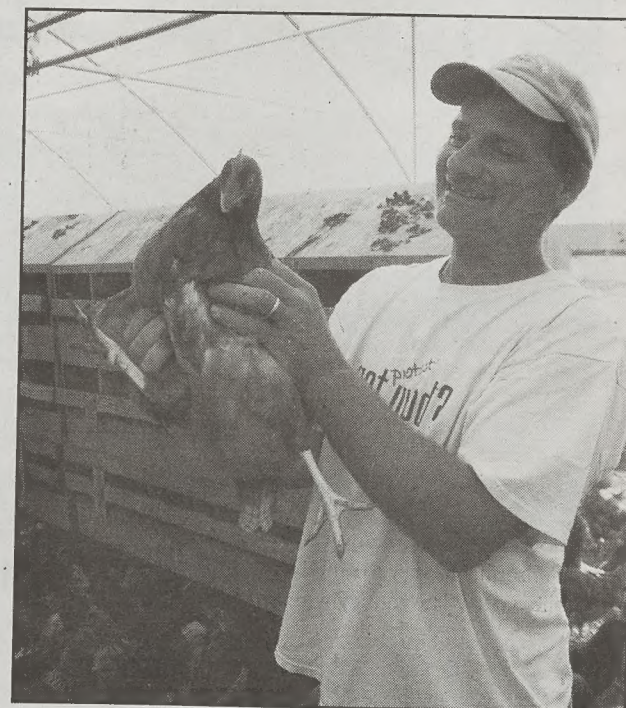
Part of the appeal is that a diner boasts something for everyone, especially students. Thursdays are Student Night with meal specials for under \$10, and Perras is always looking for student bands to play over the weekend, even during some of the more obscure hours on weekends, when the diner is open 24 hours. With free Internet and menu options like Hog Heaven — two hot dogs wrapped in bacon, deep-fried and served in buns on a bed of coleslaw — no one can say the Farmers Diner is stuck in the granola zone.

"It's pretty funny — we've heard our reputation is as kind of a hippie health food place, and we're really a regular American diner," said Murphy.

From the mason jars as mugs to the farmer profiles on every facing page of the menu, the Farmers Diner could not get more homegrown or down-to-earth in both the literal and the figurative senses. Welcome to the Farmers Diner. Enjoy some food from here.



Jeff Bahnck of Vermont Heritage Grazers keeps his mobile chicken coop on a defunct apple orchard in Bridport, Vt. He also raises pigs on a separate farm. Because of the Farmers Diner, Bahnck sells all 396 of his eggs every day.



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor



## Track your carbon footprint

Brighter Planet integrates social networking and carbon neutrality in the latest way to go green, page 7

## Bid Adieu to Jim Douglas

Get to know the Midd-kid side of Vermont's governor as he prepares to leave office, page 8





# Gov. Douglas returns to small town roots

By Elizabeth Scarinci  
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Vermont Governor Jim Douglas '72 can be seen at Sunday mass at the local Congregational church, at Middlebury town meetings where he acts as the town moderator or at Tully and Marie's satisfying his sweet-tooth with a second dessert.

The four-term governor and one of the only Republican elected officials in the state recently announced that he would not seek reelection in 2010. Douglas has received more votes than anyone in Vermont history, from both Democrats and Republicans, but plans to leave office next November to spend more time with his wife, two sons and new grandson.

Without knowing it, when Douglas arrived at Middlebury College in September 1968, he stepped into a long-lasting relationship with the College, town and people. He was eager to join clubs and take classes that fed his broad passions. Over the next four years, when he was not speaking Russian with his fellow Russian majors, he was acting as a disc jockey and news reporter for the campus radio station. He also joined College Republicans, which is how he became involved with Vermont state politics.

Following graduation, Douglas successfully campaigned for a position in the Vermont House of Representatives. Since then, throughout his long political career, he has remained loyal to Middlebury. Douglas married a local resident, Dorothy Foster Douglas, and has two sons, both of whom graduated from Middlebury Union High School. He also lives in Middlebury and commutes to his office in Montpelier, crossing the Appalachian Gap each day.

He worked on the Foster Farm for a short time and served on the boards of the United Way of Addison County, the Mary Johnson Children's Center, the Porter Medical Center and the Addison County Chamber of Commerce. He has also stayed close to the College, speaking on multiple occasions and winning the Alumni Achievement Award in 2003.

At the annual Middlebury town meeting, Douglas takes the floor and presides over the meeting. He also comes to special town meetings. "We had a special town meeting on the local option tax issue and he was there for that," said town manager Bill Finger. "Any special town meetings we've had, he comes back for those."

According to Press Secretary Dennise Casey, Douglas' priority is setting the agenda to the people's issues. "That is what sets the governor apart from other elected officials and why Vermonters of all political stripes support him," she said.

Casey also noted that Douglas' sense of humor is "dry and clever and quick-witted."

Douglas is also known for his love of coffee. "He drinks it all day — stopping at convenience stores and coffee shops across the state when he's out traveling around to fill up!" said

Casey. "He takes his coffee black and likes it to be piping hot!"

During his time as governor, Douglas pushed many popular policies, but also a few unpopular ones. He vetoed the bill to allow same-sex marriage in the state, which was overridden the following day. The Vermont congress also overrode Douglas' veto of the Vermont state budget this year.

Since joining the state House of Representatives after graduation, he has spent his life in the public eye. The governor looks forward to finishing his term and then letting another public official continue his legacy as governor.

Douglas compared the life of a governor to that of a farmer. "As any farmer knows after many years of working sunup to sundown, seven days a week, there comes a time to turn over the reins to fresh arms," Douglas said. "For me, that time is approaching."

In his resignation speech, Douglas joked that he does not have presidential ambitions. "Dorothy has a divorce lawyer on speed dial if I ever utter that crazy idea," he said.

Though his political ambitions do not extend to the federal level, Douglas did say that until his term ends next year, he will continue to work as hard as he always has. "I will focus as intensely as I always do on the needs of Vermonters, he said, "and I will continue to fight every day to put this state on firm footing."



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

## CONSTRUCTION ON THE CROSS STREET BRIDGE

The bridge construction will be completed in late October 2010, according to Middlebury town manager Bill Finger. The abutments and piers are under construction now and the main beams will be installed in November. A temporary road in the center of the creek to facilitate building will follow later that month.



## From the Statehouse

9/1 — Vermont public officials are urging schools to take several precautions against the H1N1 virus (also known as swine flu) this school year. In many schools, nurses will wear masks while working with sick students and contests for perfect attendance will be dropped. Officials may open free clinics to vaccinate Vermonters in October. Over 60 cases of swine flu have been reported in Vermont since the outbreak, five of which were reported in Addison County.

8/26 — Vermont received over \$1 million in federal stimulus money for the Department of Public Safety. The money will go toward combating drug-related crimes and instituting justice information databases in rural areas.

8/25 — SAT scores among Vermont students dipped slightly this year but are still above the national average. Critical reading fell one point to 518. Math decreased five points to 518 and writing dropped by one to 506. Overall, 64 percent of high-school seniors in Vermont took the exam.

Check in next issue for coverage of health-care in Vermont.

AMERICAN  
FLATBREAD  
AT THE MARBLE WORKS

TUE.  
WED.  
THUR.  
FRI.  
SAT.

5-9:00 P.M.

## local lowdown

### "Eat Local" Challenge

Ongoing through September

Head over to the Middlebury Foods Natural Co-op or <http://www.acornvt.org/localvorepledge.cfm> and pledge to eat locally for a day, a week or the even the whole month!

### Sandra Wright

Sept. 11, 8-9 p.m.

Come hear jazz and standards at the Town Hall Theater from Vermont's own Sandra Wright, backed by Chuck Miller and his band. Tickets are \$15 and available at the THT box office or <http://www.townhalltheater.org>.

### Kelly Brush Century Ride

Sept. 12, 7:30 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Support the Kelly Brush Foundation's fourth annual event, hosted by the Middlebury ski team, to raise awareness of spinal cord injury prevention and fund grant money for adaptive sports gear. Bike the 25-, 50- or 100-mile course through the Champlain Valley and attend the barbecue from 3-5 p.m. Pre-register at <http://www.kellybrushfoundation.org>.

### Two-day Revolutionary War Reenactment

Sept. 12-13, 9:30 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Come explore an 18th-century war encampment recreated by over 700 reenactors at Fort Ticonderoga. The battle begins at 2 p.m., but arrive early to enjoy the other festivities. Contact James Ross at [major2hook@yahoo.com](mailto:major2hook@yahoo.com) to participate in the battle.

### Shipwreck tour

Sept. 15, 4-5 p.m.

Hop onboard at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Ferrisburgh, Vt. and take a boat tour of Lake Champlain's some 300 shipwrecks. You'll "see" the wrecks through the onboard remotely operated vehicle camera. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$18 for youths. Pre-registration is required at (802)-475-2022 or [info@lcmmm.org](mailto:info@lcmmm.org).

### Book talk and local foods potluck

Sept. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Hear Dr. Amy Trubeck from the University of Vermont talk about her new book, *The Taste of Place*, in which she explores the concept of terroir, or the unique characteristics that the local environment contributes to produce and other agricultural products. Ilsley Library Community Room. For more information, <http://www.uvm.edu/~nfsfood>.

### Beekeeping lecture

Sept. 17, 7-8 p.m.

Listen to Ross Conrad, co-author of the book "Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture," explain why the honeybee is disappearing and what people can do to stop it at the Lincoln Library in Lincoln, Vt.



## town/gown



by Grady Ross

Oh, the sights of summer: Mead Chapel, Old Stone Row, Bicentennial Hall in all its glory. Sort of like the sights of autumn. And winter. And spring. Trying something new and different, I stayed in Middlebury for the better part of our four-month hiatus. While it's no trek across the Alps, this little hamlet promised more for me this year than the usual small town blues — there was some mystery to an otherwise all-too-familiar place. What was I to expect from Middlebury, the town, after a prolonged stint at Middlebury, the college? Would my eyes be opened to things that I had previously taken for granted? Perhaps the reality of the school would skew my notion of the town I had known for so long. Golly, what a cliffhanger.

Here's the big revelation: there is none. Middlebury the town is sleepy and boring. Of course, that's not really fair to say, because any place would be sleepy and boring after a couple of semesters at such a fine place of learning; engaged in riveting discussion and a passionate exchange of knowledge, I was under the distinct impression that I was a particularly special person. Then I find that even though I can use the term "post-modern" in casual conversation, and even though I take issue with all sorts of things, and even though I can look through a microscope and distinguish between that blob and this blob, the town pool still closes early on Saturdays. But did I tell you I was a global citizen?

It's not that there is no place for my education in the town of Middlebury, or that its residents are intellectually inferior in any way. But this place is different for me in the summer from what it is during the school year, and that difference is certainly not physical. It's a vibe, and it comes from my personal perception of purpose as it transforms from one season to the next.

At school, this feeling of purpose manifests itself in things like superior verb usage. Not so in the non-academic year, when I must glean a sense of accomplishment from the mundane. Perhaps you might come to better understand my alternative Middlebury from my noteworthy summer accomplishments.

First, I baked a strawberry streusel. While one could say I've dabbled in the culinary arts before (hey, Kraft Dinner ain't nothing to sneeze at), I've never attempted a recipe that contained demands so beyond my skill level: *Using two knives, cut in the butter until the mixture resembles fine crumbs. Sprinkle the milk mixture over the flour mixture. Knead until the milk is distributed and the particles begin to hold together, but are not wet.* Not as impressive as I'm making it out to be? But you should have tasted it.

In other news, I learned to drive a car. Actually, I've had my license for several years now, but ever since I failed drivers' education and had to retake the class (there was also that time I totaled my dad's car), I haven't been really confident behind the wheel. There have been times when I actually kissed the ground upon arrival (though admittedly, it's usually my passengers on their hands and knees). But in the last several months I've embraced the open road. In fact, I have become such an aggressive driver that only last week I pulled out in front of a state police and was given a ticket for failure to yield. I say this with pride.

Not things you would gloatingly mention along with that research project? Ah, but that's the point, isn't it?

## Brighter Planet launches eco-friendly site

By Molly Holmes  
STAFF WRITER

Imagine a Facebook-like networking Web site that provides users easy, practical ways to help conserve Earth's resources. After a month of beta testing, Middlebury-based environmental company Brighter Planet has officially launched an innovative carbon footprint calculator that allows members to track their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and provides tailored tips on how to reduce their individual footprints, making it the first footprint calculator of its kind.

"Our mission has been a constant since we started about three years ago — to help people with practical solutions to fight climate change," said Brighter Planet CEO Patti Prairie.

Since the company was founded in 2007, Brighter Planet has provided innovative products and services that help people decrease their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The company was borne out of a Middlebury class project for Professor Jon Isham's environmental economics class. College alumni Andy Rossmeissl '05 and Jake Whitcomb '06 envisioned a credit card that earned its user carbon offset points, rather than airline miles. Isham, Rossmeissl and Whitcomb decided to develop this idea and launched Brighter Planet during the summer of 2006 in Middlebury.

Prairie joined the team in the fall of 2006 and helped this dream become a reality with her extensive banking background as a former senior vice president at American Express and executive vice president at

Bank of Boston. Brighter Planet now offers credit and checking cards issued by Bank of America. Customers accumulate points that are used to help fund renewable energy projects across the country. Brighter Planet also sponsors projects such as a wind turbine in Colorado and a methane digester in Pennsylvania and has already helped offset millions of pounds of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Brighter Planet's new carbon calculator has expanded the opportunities for individuals to effect changes in their own carbon footprints and has allowed the company to reach more people. The Web application allows users to track their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. By following tips provided by the company and other users, members can reduce their output over time.

The program provides average statistics for four categories: transportation, shelter, consumables and government. Users can modify their profile based on the kind of car they drive, the type of home they own or their daily eating habits in order to build a more accurate picture of their footprint. The Web app is different from other carbon calculators because it provides lifestyle tips such as "bike to work all week" and offers constant updates so users can watch their footprint shrink.

Brighter Planet users can also choose to purchase carbon offsets. The revenue goes toward Brighter Planet's environmental projects and campaigns. "By buying offsets," said Prairie, "you're becoming an investor in these projects that are in various communi-

ties and on farms in the United States."

The calculator application incorporates a unique social networking aspect. Brighter Planet has hosted a blog since November 2007 and frequently interacts with other environmental Internet companies and blogs such as treehugger.com. Like on Facebook and Twitter, users can "follow" one another and give each other "thumbs up" (the Brighter Planet equivalent to "poking" someone), inviting a sense of shared responsibility. The company has also developed direct Facebook and Twitter integration. These aspects of the Web site have reinforced the company's reputation as one that has seamlessly integrated eco-friendliness and current Web trends.

"Social networking has become a part of our DNA at Brighter Planet," said Prairie. "It's a great way to interact with our members — and it can be fun."

Brighter Planet will soon launch yet another initiative that they are calling The Climate Fund. The new company will accept proposals from individuals and groups that need additional funding for renewable energy projects. The proposals will be posted on the company's Web site and Brighter Planet members will vote for their favorite. The Climate Fund will launch in mid-September and a new project will receive funding each month.

The Climate Fund is the company's latest effort to reduce emissions and foster a budding environmental community.

"We're trying to do something important," said Prairie. "And the fact that we're in Middlebury is an asset."

A few tips from  
<http://brighterplanet.com>

**TIP NO. 145** Take a shorter shower three times this week

Completing this tip will reduce your footprint an estimated 1.5 lbs. CO<sub>2</sub>e each week.

**TIP NO. 120** Replace all your incandescent bulbs with CFLs

Completing this tip will reduce your footprint an estimated 2158.0 lbs. CO<sub>2</sub>e each year.

**TIP NO. 63** Read the news online

**TIP NO. 29** Eat a 100% locally-grown meal once this week

Completing this tip will reduce your footprint an estimated 0.6 lbs. CO<sub>2</sub>e each week.

**TIP NO. 94** Unplug unused cell-phone chargers all week

## one in 8,200

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Lea Calderon-Guthe  
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

John Melanson never imagined he would own Middlebury's "conversation and community" hotspot as a quiet former woodworker and psychiatric counselor, but the affable owner of Carol's Hungry Mind loves his job.

"I said to Carol before we opened, 'I don't know if I'm going to like it, being in the spotlight every day. I don't like going to parties, standing around making small talk. How am I going to do this?'" Melanson said.

Despite his fears and the fact that he had only known Carol Ross, the café's namesake and co-founder, for three months, in March 2005 Melanson mortgaged his house in Goshen, Vt. and invested in Middlebury's first true coffeehouse.

"Once I committed, that was all I wanted to do," Melanson said. "The change that this has made in my life has been unbelievable. I love this. I love seeing people. I love talking to people. One of the best things, I feel, is I can go up to somebody and do a really nice thing for them and they don't say, 'What're you doing that for?'"

Though his enthusiasm keeps the atmosphere at Carol's light and friendly, the road to success has been a rough one for Melanson. The Massachusetts native signed on to Ross' café proposal as a self-prescribed life change two years after his wife died in a 2001 skiing accident. Only weeks before Carol's Hungry Mind was scheduled to open in 2005, Melanson suffered another loss: Ross died of pancreatic cancer just 11 days after being diagnosed.

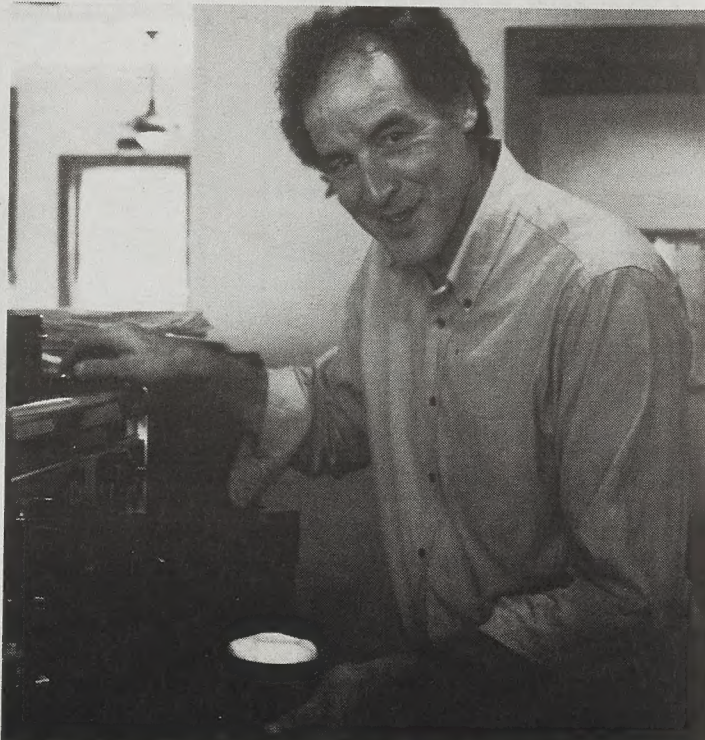
"I didn't know if I should still start [the café] because [Ross] had all of the experience and money; I didn't," Melanson said. "But I started it and it will be five years this January. I have to decide this month whether I'm going to sign another lease."

The café, which receives no funding from the College, owes those five years of existence to Melanson's tireless work ethic and creative fundraising. He spends the majority of his time there without cutting himself a paycheck.

"I know a lot of people who would have folded by now because I've lost all of my money, but maybe I'll make it back someday," Melanson said. "What keeps me going is that every day I love coming in here. I love coming in here even on my day off."

Melanson's unending optimism stems from a philosophy that he and Ross wanted their café to embody, a philosophy he hopes will keep people coming back, having good conversation and buying coffee.

"I think we all have this feeling of a bad world because we've been inundated by instant media from all over the world bringing us all the bad news you can possibly find," Melanson said. "I want to promote the good feelings. I want people to feel at home and comfortable here, people from all walks of life."



Saila Huusko, Photo

John Melanson, owner of Carol's Hungry Mind Café, prepares a cappuccino and chats with customers, his favorite part of the job.



## Get Involved in the Community!!

Interested in...

Volunteering?

Activism?

Social Justice?

Advocacy?

In the areas of...

~Education~Literacy~Mentoring~Environment~

~Emergency Services~Hunger & Homelessness~

~Public Health~Plus MORE!~

Learn how to get involved at the...

### MiddAction Fair

Tuesday, September 15

6:00-7:30 pm

McCullough Social Space

*Sponsored by the Alliance for Civic Engagement*

## Peace Corps

21 MIDDLEBURY ALUMNI  
ARE SERVING OVERSEAS...

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN JOIN THEM!



Information Session

Thursday, September 17

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

McCardell Bicentennial Hall 104

MBH Building

Middlebury College

Information Table

Thursday, September 17

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

McCullough Mailroom

Recommended deadline of October 1, 2009  
for all 2010 departures.

[www.peacecorps.gov/apply/now](http://www.peacecorps.gov/apply/now)

Exercise more  
than your intellect.

### College Students

Get 15% OFF full-price items.

Must show valid college ID. Restrictions apply; visit store for details.

#### Rutland

Diamond Run Mall  
802-773-9782

#### South Burlington

100 Dorset St.  
802-864-0473



[www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com)

news.  
local.  
opinions.  
features.  
arts.  
sports.

it's all online.

all new site  
september 2009



## The Middlebury Campus

<b>Managing Editor</b> Tess Russell	<b>Editor-in-Chief</b> Brian Fung	<b>Business Manager</b> Zachary Karst
<b>News Editors</b> Anthony Adragna Jaime Fuller Kara Shurmantine	<b>Local News Editors</b> Lea Calderon-Guthe Elizabeth Scarinci	<b>Opinions Editors</b> Peter Baumann Isabel Shaw Ian Trombulak
<b>Features Editors</b> H. Kay Merriman Ted Silberman Roz Vara	<b>Arts Editors</b> Tamara Hilmes Joanna Rothkopf Emily Stephens Dana Walters	<b>Sports Editors</b> Emma Gardner Alyssa O'Gallagher Katie Siegner
<b>Photo Editors</b> Zach Doleac Saila Huusko Andrew Ngeow	<b>Online Editors</b> George Altshuler Tom Brant Erin Hansen Ryan Kellett	

## Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

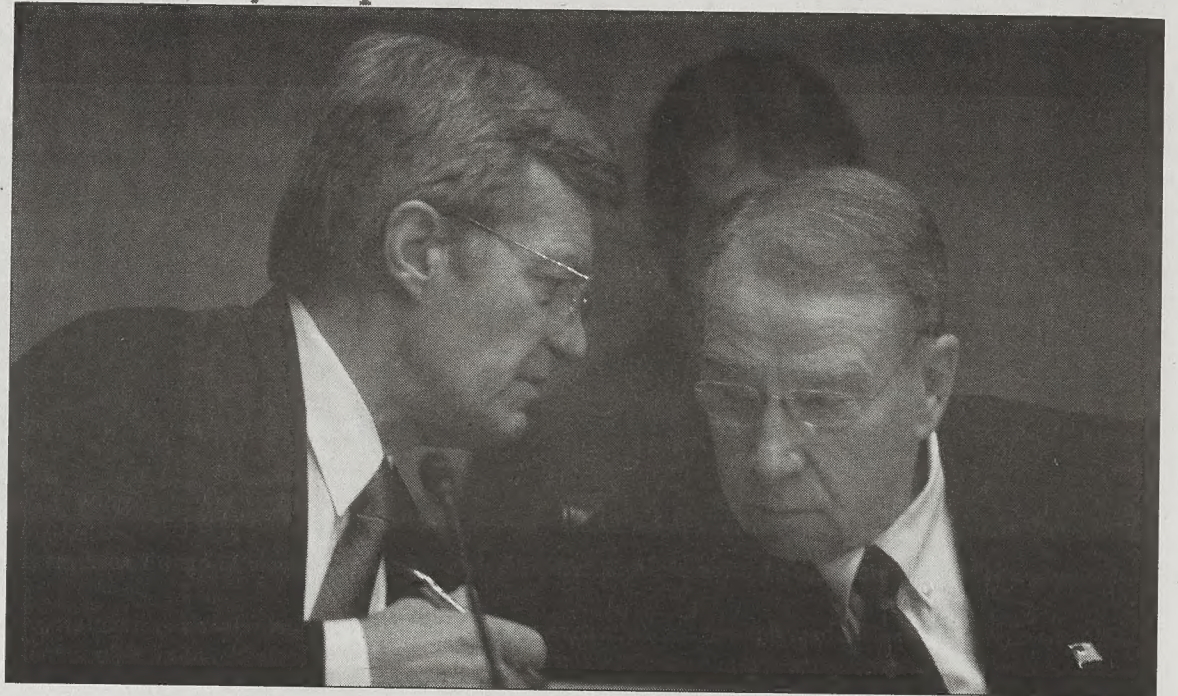
### Pulling a fast one

Returning to the College this month means adjusting to more than a new roommate or an exceptionally long lunch line: it means reengaging with the social and fiscal challenges that marked much of the 2008-9 academic year, as well as adapting to a new series of changes, particularly the recent closure of Parton Health Center during late-night hours.

Parton's drastically reduced schedule has drawn ire from students and staff alike. Never mind that the facility's evening closures coincide directly with yet another national bout of H1N1 hysteria, indulged by the College through its dissemination of electronic materials outlining impractical "emergency" measures; Old Chapel's latest move simply raises troubling questions about safety at the College. While we advocate the same personal responsibility that administrators hope Parton's new schedule will encourage, and acknowledge that Middlebury is among the last of its NESCAC peers to adopt a limited health center schedule, the fact that the move was made unilaterally over the fervent objections of the Department of Public Safety — as some officers have made clear in meetings with residential staff — gives the impression that dialogue about the decision was limited at best.

Perhaps most troubling about the Parton news is that it was so surprising. Rather than bury it deep in a late summer e-mail, Old Chapel would have done well to describe the constellation of legitimate factors — including the untimely departure of an important staffer — that forced the administration's hand. Being straightforward and open would have informed families that Parton had little alternative and that the College was exploring ways to mitigate the move's effects. That this publication could be the first to disclose in full the details behind Parton's nighttime closure seems a major blunder for an institution so conscious of its external impressions.

Amid ongoing changes to the commons system, campus dining and alcohol policies, attitudes toward the health center will no doubt normalize with time. Yet the harm to our trust seems poised to linger.



The Senate Finance Committee, led by Chairman Max Baucus D-Mont. (left) and Ranking Member Charles Grassley R-I.A., represents the last chance for a bi-partisan health insurance reform proposal.

## Notes From the Desk: Peter Baumann

### The sweet sound of courteous debate

One topic that has captured our nation's attention during the waning months of summer has been health-care reform — excuse me, health insurance reform, as congressional democrats are now scrambling to re-brand it. It is a debate that has incited the passions of many, with residents of both sides (and all nooks and crannies) of the political spectrum rising in support of or opposition to the proposed reform.

It is my fervent hope that in the coming months this section will mimic the events taking place across the nation, as students, professors, administrators and parents all make use of this forum to air their grievances, tell their story, or simply express happiness or disappointment with the way things are proceeding in Congress. For those of us that will soon leave college and embark upon a career path that takes us away from our current health coverage, there is no issue more salient. Within the next three years I will leave my father's employer-provided coverage and enter a marketplace where one dollar out of every five spent in this country goes to healthcare related costs. As costs continue to skyrocket and fewer and fewer employers offer coverage, I will be forced to choose between going without health insurance or incurring rapidly mounting debt. Scholars claim that healthcare costs become untenable for a family when they represent more than five percent of total income — a number which many in our generation will easily exceed. The system undeniably needs reform, but should that reform come in the admittedly drastic style currently being proposed? That is for us to debate and discuss. The healthcare debate is being carried out across the age spectrum, and yet it is our generation that stands to gain — or lose — the most from both action and inaction.

But we must confine the commentary on these pages to the realm of facts, rather than dabbling in the

spin-science of myths and twisted conclusions that too often preempts legitimate discussion. Please, write about healthcare, but take the time to confirm your facts before you write. To read the bill before the House of Representatives, or summaries, visit the Energy and Commerce Web site (<http://energyandcommerce.gov>). For a non-partisan fact checker, <http://www.politifact.com> is an award-winning site that has called out both President Obama (for ignorantly citing the AARP's sup-

port of H.R. 3200) and Sarah Palin (for her ludicrous claim of "death panels") for skirting the truth during the health insurance debate. Ten extra minutes of fact checking will ensure that these pages remain above the partisan squabbling that has stalemated progress in any form across the country.

Last month, when conservative stalwart Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) learned of the death of liberal lion Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), many were surprised by his

claim that the gentleman he had so often publicly buttressed with was, in fact, "a treasured friend." Hatch went on to describe Kennedy "with all of his ideological verbosity and idealism" as "a rare person who at times could put aside differences and look for common solutions." If these two figures, each charged with upholding his respective party's political health ideology as chairman, and ranking member of the Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, can interact as colleagues and friends, then so can we. In the end, if we can use each disagreement as an opportunity to reexamine and refine our own position, the debate we have will transcend discord and cultivate progress. Everyone has an opinion on health insurance reform. Share it.

PETER BAUMANN '10 IS AN OPINIONS EDITOR.  
HE IS FROM DENVER, COLO.

### Next week's Campus poll

**Will Parton Health Center's nightly closures result in more students going to Porter Hospital?**

## campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu) or via the paper's web site at [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com). To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

*The Middlebury Campus* (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. *The Middlebury Campus* is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by the Press Republican in N.Y. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.



## Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy Love in the Time of Swine Flu

I usurped this column space last year under the pretext that I would be writing about international student issues and bringing in a new perspective and all sorts of things you say to get a column space. If it becomes convenient in the course of the following months to exploit this moral imperative, I shall do so. For example, Opinions editor Peter Baumann e-mailed me last night and told me to write a column. In my country...

I kid. The subject of my biweekly writing is beef I have with the world, so given our current economic situation and people's resultant inability to buy their way out of ineptitude I should have plenty of material to work with. Off the bat, I can identify some strong candidates — people, organizations and behaviors that have a particular talent for provoking my ire — and it would only be fair to give them a heads-up. The list of seeded players and their handicaps is as follows:

Bonaparte

Jansen: I've enjoyed your letters this summer, and do forgive me for not replying. It's not that I don't agree with your self-commentary — you do such a good job describing what an amazing human being you are; I don't think I can do it any better. I would only insert one tiny footnote: you run a bookstore, not an empire.

Center for Health and Wellness Education: Before you hit "Send," STOP. See the paperclip? It's like the ones you have on your desk in one hundred happy colors, except black (⊗, I know). Click on it, attach your stegosaurus, but before you hit send, go back in time, find a 12 year-old, and ask them to look over your content. If they look at you funny — something tells me they will — you shouldn't be sending this to college students.

The Registrar's Office: Somewhere over the rainbow there's a wonderful wizard. I heard he gives tin men hearts.

Marquis de Biette: If there's anything I can do to be a better person in your eyes, let me know. In the meantime, I know you're good at this anyway, but here's a managerial suggestion: synergize with Bonaparte. It will be the cost-cutting, critic-silencing dual monarchy of erudite epicureanism, the bay-aldi of books, the seitan of Sun Tzu, Austria-Hungary, circa 1914.

Count Paper: Die.

The College Republicans: I'm getting tired of doing this every year, but then seeing Heather Pangle get red in the face and skip

the tuna-pasta salad line just to avoid eye contact with me is a pleasure I selfishly cannot forego. You xenophobes need to remember that Americans weren't the only ones who died on September 11th. Your half-assed flag-planting schtick needs to include, beside the USA, the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Bel-

gium, Brazil, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic of Congo, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, France, Germany, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Trinidad and Tobago, the Ukraine, Uzbekistan, the United Kingdom and Venezuela.

The College Democrats: the Republicans may be the ugly sister, but you're still related.

I'll be submitting my next column on Sunday the 20th; you have until then to devise a plan to not piss me off.

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM  
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

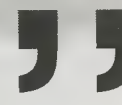
**The subject of my biweekly column is beef I have with the world, so given our current economic situation and people's resultant inability to buy their way out of ineptitude, I should have plenty of material.**



heardoncampus

**I have concerns about students every night, it's what keeps me awake... That's not a joke, because anything can happen.**

— President Ron Liebowitz



## Lupo Fiasco: Kate Lupo Back-to-school jitters Mad Lib

Welcome back everyone, to our beautiful college campus! The weather is warm and sunny (don't get used to it), the first-years are quite cute and the school is buzzing with that inexplicable, ticklishly wonderful back-to-school energy. Here's a mad lib to help you write your first journal entry of the school year. Directions: without looking at the text below, have a friend ask you for the corresponding parts of speech to fill in the blanks in the story, then read aloud.

Dear Diary,

What a \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) first day of school! This morning my roommate was \_\_\_\_\_ (verb ending in -ing) soundly in his/her \_\_\_\_\_ (noun) while I was up at 7 a.m. I was \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) enough to sign up for an 8 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (academic subject) class! Well, I guess the early \_\_\_\_\_ (type of animal) catches the worm. I trudged off to \_\_\_\_\_ (Middlebury dining hall), where I didn't see that slice of \_\_\_\_\_ (type of food) on the floor and spilled my \_\_\_\_\_ (type of liquid) all over a \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) group of \_\_\_\_\_ (type of sport) players. God, I was so embarrassed! How could I have been so \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.)? Well, I \_\_\_\_\_ (verb, past tense) the mess and then ran off to my

8:00 am class. On my way across Battell beach, I spotted \_\_\_\_\_ (number) HOT freshmen. I was so \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) that I stepped on a squirrel in the middle of the sidewalk. After wiping the squirrel's \_\_\_\_\_ (body part) off of my \_\_\_\_\_ (type of shoe), I ran to class so I wouldn't be late. In the classroom, I sat down on a \_\_\_\_\_ (piece of furniture) at the back and \_\_\_\_\_ (verb, past tense) at the teacher. She was a \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) woman with long \_\_\_\_\_ (color) hair. She \_\_\_\_\_ (verb, past tense) on me within the first \_\_\_\_\_ (number) minutes of class and I was able to give her a relatively \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) answer. After class, I had some time, so I went back to my room and checked out \_\_\_\_\_ (Web site) for a while and then took a nap. I had dreams about \_\_\_\_\_ (celebrity). My afternoon classes went \_\_\_\_\_ (adverb) and then I ate dinner at Ross where I watched the beautiful sun set across the distant \_\_\_\_\_ (farm animal) fields. Now I am back in my dorm, my roommate is still \_\_\_\_\_ (verb ending in -ing) and I am \_\_\_\_\_ (adj.) to be done with my first day of school, though I still have to clean my shoes properly.

KATE LUPO '10 IS FROM WESTON, CONN.



Like to draw? Join *The Campus* as a cartoonist.

Apply to [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu)

## Op-ed: Moriel Z. Rothman

### Obama, peace and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict today

I spent this summer on a program called Abraham's Vision, discussing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and engaging in "conflict transformation." While the program was extremely intense, powerful and challenging, I emerged from it very disappointed by its narrowness of ideology and attempts at oversimplification. If there is one word I cling to when discussing and analyzing issues related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict it is "nuance." The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is arguably one of the most complex conflicts in the world today, and I therefore find the tired, reductionist formulas of for and against, good and evil, right and wrong to be both problematic and dangerous. That said, I myself do not claim to be capable of offering fully objective analyses (I am a Jewish citizen of Israel, born in Jerusalem) but I feel that I am able to provide perspectives that are, well, nuanced (I am a Middle East studies major, who will be studying abroad in Alexandria). Thus, in order to help foster discussion, I am going to be writing a monthly column in *The Campus* that will address, following this edition, specific questions readers have.

With the Obama administration's genuine commitment to working toward lasting peace in the Middle East, these next few years could be pivotal and perhaps even bring us to the beginning of the end of a conflict so often referred to as "intractable." Yes, Obama's team has already faced many setbacks, and it is certainly questionable whether the political climate is right at the moment with Netanyahu's hawkish government screaming that "Jerusalem is non-negotiable" while Hamas is busy slaughtering dissidents, the huge chasm between itself and Fatah remaining largely unbridged. However, there are also many reasons, in my eyes, for very cautious optimism.

First, the fact that Obama began his struggle to bring about peace three months into his presidency is huge, especially when contrasted with Clinton's rushed push for peace during the twilight of his reign. And there have indeed been results, albeit partial and delayed. Netanyahu made a major

about-face with his statement in June that there must be "two states for two peoples," and an agreement is in the works between the U.S. and Israel with regards to the settlements (in which Israel will likely freeze settlement construction in exchange for increased U.S. pressure and potential sanctions against Iran).

Next, Palestinian security forces in the West Bank have been lauded from all sides for their increased efficiency and aptitude in combating internal militant extremism. Moreover, the Palestinian Liberation Organization's national convention last month showed that the Palestinians (as represented by Fatah, at least) are still on the same page — albeit in a very broad sense — the Israelis in their emphasis on a two-state solution as the preferred route. And as far as Hamas goes, a deal concerning the release of Israeli corporal Gilad Shalit could potentially lead to a breakthrough in relations between Hamas and all the involved parties, and the Hamas leadership has indeed been hinting at its willingness to accept a two-state solution.

That said, there are still enormous and relatively undressed hurdles, such as the status of refugees and Jerusalem, as well as key issues of recognition. Below are three things I think the U.S. needs to do, or assist with, in the interest of Israeli-Palestinian peace. Please consider them more as discussion prompts than as set conclusions.

1. **Speech.** Obama must address the people of Israel directly (as recommended in a recent op-ed by Aluf Benn). His support among the Israeli public is at a low; they feel slighted and ignored, as if Obama is using the settlements as a way to gain brownie points with the Arab world and is not truly concerned with Israeli security (I, personally, am in favor of the pressure Obama has put on Israel, and believe that he indeed does care about Israeli security, but public perception is crucial in this conflict, and thus a Cairo-type address in Jerusalem could do a lot to assuage very understandable Israeli

fears and concerns.)

2. **Iran.** The Israeli government and public generally views Iran as a dangerous enemy and Iran's nuclear program as posing a serious existential threat to Israel. The Obama administration must prove to Israel, whether via intensive talks or harsh sanctions, that it is serious and committed to ensuring that Iran does not develop the capacity to make a nuclear bomb. Obama would thus gain back lost Israeli trust as well as political leverage to request crucial but painful concessions from the Israeli side in terms of the settlements, etc.

3. **Recognitions.** This is an issue far more complex than the former two and one that gets to the very heart of the conflict, as well as one not likely to be engaged independent of intensive negotiations. It may sound strange that something as symbolic and intangible as "recognition" is one of the most crucial pieces to the puzzle of peace, but symbolism takes on huge significance in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. As such, the Israelis must recognize the Palestinians' suffering and acknowledge their role in creating this suffering, as well as recognize the legitimacy of the Palestinians' desire for an independent and fully sovereign state. The Palestinians, in turn, must recognize Israel's legitimate right to exist as a Jewish state. Obama can and should put pressure on both sides to begin the painful process that would lead to such recognitions.

What can we do, here in Middlebury? Congress resumes its session this week: call your congressmen, tell them simply that you support Obama's push for peace, and that they should do the same. Unless you don't support it. Then call me. And we'll wrestle.

MORIEL ROTHMAN '11 IS FROM JERSEY CITY, N.J.  
HE IS A MIDDLE EAST STUDIES, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ARABIC MAJOR.



## WELCOME, FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS!

As you read this, you're probably sitting in a dining hall or in your dorm room, wondering, "Where did summer go?" Well, it's time to look onward, especially you, first-years. What are you going to do? Where are you going to go? Who are you going to meet? You could continue to sit on your butt in your dorm room. Or ...

You could sing a *cappella*, stargaze, debate parliamentary style, speak Swahili (or sing it while running), psycho-analyze the Psych Club, talk with hands, climb a fake rock, architecture-ize your turkey sandwich, dance at Diwali, ride a horse, karate chop, fly-fish, grow beans, practice donuts and bunnies in the pool, tell tall tales to toddlers, eat soul food, drink Arabian coffee, dance the hula, attend a pow-wow, examine bird migration, capture a knight, cook for friends, juggle on stilts, write about women, write about robots, deejay on WRMC, support Obama, bash Obama, promote peace, attempt to free Tibet, attend Shabbat, bang on tongas, tango or do utterly nothing with Otter Nonsense. Then again, there's always the dorm room.

— Kaylen Baker, Staff Writer



File Photo/Jessica Appelson

The Golden Snitch, Rainey Johnson '09, attempts to escape the Vassar defense.

### —Quidditch—

Ask any muggle who has ever attended a Quidditch match on campus, and he will tell you the same thing: the game is rough. Last year, during one of the penultimate world cup events, the Golden Snitch (also a Middlebury cross country runner) vaulted over the head of a large, blond ponytailed seeker to evade capture and sent him sprawling in the mud by sheer wind force. But don't be intimidated. Fifty to 150 students on a given Sunday will turn up to play, many of them beginners. Practice, as with any sport, is what it takes to develop specific skills and become a successful team player.

Kate Olen '11, the Middlebury Quidditch co-commissioner, said of the players prowess, "We don't fly. But we do run — fast. And awkwardly. A broom between your legs will do this."

### —Dolci—

Any position in Dolci is delectable, because everyone, from the head chef and prep chef down to waiters and attendees, gets to eat. The typical four-course meal is not your typical dining hall food: last year I found myself in foodie heaven as I discreetly licked my plate clean of chocolate mousse. "You don't need cooking experience to work at Dolci, just a desire to cook dank food with and for fellow students," Dolci staff explained in their campus-wide e-mail. "You get to add a cool position on your résumé. I mean, not everyone gets to be a head chef. It sounds pretty responsible to potential employers." Dolci will be open for business every week this year.

### —A Cappella—

The best and worst thing that can happen to you during finals week as you are studying late into the night and your desk lamp's growing progressively dimmer, is hearing a troupe of a cappella singers begin tra-la-la-ing outside your window. Middlebury's got eight: the rocking Mamajamas, the distinguished men of Dissipated Eight, the medieval Mountain Ayres, the funky female Paradiddles, the oh-so-holy People Get Ready, Stuck in the Middle (of what?), the girlicious Mischords and the old-timer Bobolinks.

### —International Student Organization—

It is hard to sum up the International Student Organization (ISO), not because it's the largest student-run club on campus, and not because it involves a great diversity of cultures or because it encompasses many different types of events, but because — as Gwen Stefani once (almost) said, "This ISO is bananas." While most ISO members are international students seeking a community of fellow travelers with whom to celebrate and share their experiences, some American students have been known to join, too. Their dance parties have the best music, the ISO Soccer World Cup is a ball, seminars open up different perspectives in global issues and the Cultural Show is a must-see.

### —Global Health Action Network—

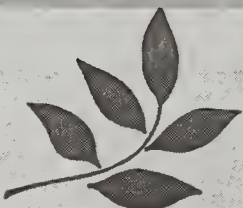
The Global Health Action Network represents a group of students interested in the issues of global public health from a perspective of social justice. Their hope is to increase awareness, activism and opportunity within the field of global health at Middlebury.

"Global health isn't necessarily always about being a doctor or working abroad," said Hannah Burnett '10. "We try to approach it through a lens of social justice in which everyone has a role in awareness and action." Last spring, the network hosted the MCAB Spring Symposium "Healing Humanities: Perspectives on Global Public Health," and brought speakers including Dr. Paul Farmer and Dr. Al Sommer to campus. They are currently working to build a network for students at Middlebury to become engaged in global health through alumni relations, weekly lunch conversations and curriculum opportunities.

For more information on these and many other exciting extracurriculars, check out the Student Organization Activities Fair on Friday, Sept. 11 on Proctor Terrace.

#### 'Welcome to the Jungle'

Students take a walk on the wild side through the new "no-mow" zones, page 14.



#### Summer travels

Follow students' adventures around the globe, page 15.



#### Lea's first time

Experience the excitement and embarrassment with our new sex columnist, page 14.



## —Men's &amp; Women's Rugby—

Rugby isn't just British men running around in short shorts with missing teeth from brutal face-butts. Middlebury Women's Rugby Club Captain Alice Ford '10 nipped this stereotype in the bud. "Many of the women on our team are little and fast, and this was our advantage over our competitors last fall," said Ford.

"Some say an eagle carried a rugby ball over the green mountains and dropped it to the first Middlebury rugger, but that is probably just an old legend," joked Middlebury College Rugby Club (MCRC) president Blake Hinckley '10. MCRC has won seven New England Rugby Football Union (NERFU) finals in the past eight years and the national championship two times in the past three years. But don't be intimidated. "Many of our best players picked up the sport here at Middlebury," said Hinckley. "Everyone who goes to practice is guaranteed a game."

Talking about "scrums" and "blood bins" over after-practice dinners is just one effective form of team bonding. "Rugby brings a lot of different types of people together who normally wouldn't meet," said Ford. "I've met some of my best friends at Middlebury from the team."



MCRC ruggers set up for a scrum during a game last season in Middlebury.

Courtesy

## —Capoeira—

Imagine a group of students, clad in white, standing in a semicircle and clapping. Some people are playing instruments, but most are watching two kids in the center (one of whom just tried to head-butt the other). It's like fighting, but no one's getting hurt. They cleanly sweep and spin out of the way before launching the next kick. *Capoeira* means chicken coop, but Brazilian martial arts trumps a cock fight — it's more like a game of grace. Okay, no, maybe this is a dance instead. At least, there's music. Someone's playing a *berimbau*, and to find out what that is, check out the weekly Capoeira class yourself.

## Seniors offer tried and true advice

Ah, the freshness of the first-years. The smell of their excessive motivation, eagerness to please and general naïveté rises from the newly mowed grass of Battell Beach and the welcome displays in the lobby of the Main Library. But do not be fooled — behind those recently whitened smiles and under the new J. Crew threads hides that same sense of nervousness and insecurity that everyone feels upon entering Bi-Hall or Ross Dining Hall for the first time. Side effects of this feeling include the dilation of pupils in search of a familiar face and overwhelming nausea resulting from the realization that Crocs are only considered acceptable attire at crew practice.

Never fear, first-years — your fellow Midd-kids who now ecstatically or reluctantly claim the title of "senior" in some capacity [first piece of advice: super-senior Febs claim class year '09.5 and graduate in February 2010. Senior Febs are considered '10.5 and will graduate in February 2011.] have graciously offered some guidance for your Middlebury experience. Forget what you learned during orientation, if you haven't already, and study up on the sage advice of your elders. There may be a pop quiz. Good luck!

— H.Kay Merriman, Features Editor

"Work hard and play hard. You may have the best and worst time here, but no matter what, just keep trying and keep moving forward with an open mind, because at the end of the day, you'll discover that you've gained more than you came for."

— Chris Lam '10

"Don't wear socks in the shower."

— Ben Kunofsky '09.5

"Don't just stay in your dorm room, especially when doing homework. Get out and find a good study spot — the Library, Axinn or Bi-Hall, for example. Those four walls can close in on you fast! Go to professors' office hours. (Don't worry about being a nuisance. It's what they're paid to do, and what you're meant to be doing.) And finally, add Midd-Rides as a contact into your phone. Better yet, add it to speed dial."

— Amanda Quinlan '10

"Do what you feel, not what you think you should do."

— Stephen McCombe '10

"Regardless of the Saturday night fiesta/fiasco, it is always worth waking up and standing in line for Sunday morning waffles at Proctor Dining Hall. International students, never be ashamed of starting to wear long underwear earlier in the year. Make it into a fashion statement."

— Vrutika Mody '10

"Leave your door open — you never know what might happen in the hall."

— Dale Freundlich '10

"Mistakes are most forgiven your first year at college. Make 'em while you've got the free pass!"

— Raina Lynn Crawford '10

"Watch out for Connor Stewart '10. No, seriously."

— Blake Hinckley '10

"Spend as much of your time at Middlebury taking advantage of what the school AND the town have to offer. Both may be small, but there are many amazing people and possibilities in the area that will make Middlebury unforgettable."

— Will Cunningham '10

"Assume that all dorm bathrooms are co-ed, regardless of what the signs say."

— Laura Dalton '10

For more tricks of the trade (or bitter, sarcastic musings), follow senior H.Kay Merriman's "Center of the Circle" column, available exclusively on *The Campus'* new Web site.



## The L-Word



By Lea Calderon-Guthe

Well, my dear reader, it's our first time. I'm a little nervous about being this close to you and having you judge my sexual prowess. I'm wondering how you feel. I've found that the first time is so often treated as the end of an era, a loss, a departure — but I've also found that I disagree.

American society has all kinds of terms for your first time. You might pop your cherry, lose your virginity, be deflowered, trade in your V-card or give up the carnal treasure. Personally, I prefer the term "making one's sexual debut." The phrase is big in Europe, I hear, and it has no negative connotations. You're not giving anything up or losing anything you can't get back, and nothing is being done to or taken from you. I'm not particularly religious, so I've never seen anything impure or shameful in sex, and I don't think sex for the first time should be considered a loss. When I first rolled out the red carpet and stepped onto the sex scene, I saw it as opening the door to an integral part of the human experience — a form of connection, a source of pleasure and (eventually) the key to reproduction.

If you've still got the old V-card and you're thinking of making your debut, kudos to you and good luck. I can't tell you when you'll be ready — only you can make that decision — but I can tell you that I've never heard of something terrible waiting on the other side of safe, consensual sex for the first time, only a new facet of life to explore.

If you made your debut already, whether it was junior prom night in the backseat of your parents' car with your boyfriend or two nights ago on a squeaky dorm mattress with a girl you just met, I hope it went well. If it didn't, I don't think your first time defines your sex life — otherwise I'd have been condemned to that junior prom night scenario. (Let me tell you that there is nothing sexy about a seatbelt buckle grinding into your back.) If you wish you could do it over again, do it over again. Pick a new first time for yourself and say, "This is the first time I had sex the way/when/where I really wanted to."

A friend recently told me she was amazed that she'd done the deed so many times before having really, really toe-curlingly good sex, and I realized that a lot of different events could earn the title of "My First Time." I am satisfied with my "official" debut, but the first time I actually knew what I was doing, the first orgasm, the first time with someone new, the first time it was making love instead of bumping uglies — all of those could easily trump prom night. With so many different first times, maybe the physical first time you align all of the various parts and call it sex isn't worth all the hype or the pressure.

The first time business boils down to this: it is my sex life. I get to say when it starts and how important the start is. I give my sexual experiences the meaning I want them to have, and I hope our first time has empowered you to feel like you can do the same.

## Students survive summer slump

By Ted Silberman

FEATURES EDITOR

As Middlebury students packed their bags last May, many were uncertain about where they would end up or what they would do once they got there. Youth unemployment reached a record 18.5 percent in July — the highest figure ever recorded since the Bureau of Labor Statistics started keeping track in 1948. With the nation gripped by a recession more severe than any in recent memory, some students settled for jobs less exciting than they had hoped for, while others took the opportunity to try something new.

*The Campus* recently caught up with a few of them to hear their stories. Unsurprisingly, given Middlebury's international inclination, their paths took them to three continents to pursue a diverse set of interests. Whether conducting research on stroke in Burlington or giving tours of French champagne cellars, each tried something new and had a good time doing it.

## Champagne in France

After a few unsuccessful attempts to find employment at an American museum or auction house, Brooke Beatt '10 contacted her friend's family in France and used her French skills to land a job taking visitors through the Taittinger champagne cellars. Beatt guided each group on an hour-long tour, teaching them the history of champagne and how it is made before concluding with a tasting.

Beatt so immersed herself in the culture that many visitors could not distinguish her nationality. After listening to her tours in French and English, many impressed guests complimented her on her "great American accent."

## Plumbing in China

On the other side of the globe, another Middlebury student also honed his language skills and tried a new industry on for size. Doug Shultz '10 wanted to stay in China after

his study abroad, so the Sheboygan, Wisc. native ended up working in the Shanghai office of Kohler Co., a plumbing fixture company based just outside his hometown.

After a short stint in the human resources department, Shultz switched to marketing and worked on their sustainability plan. "I researched the state of green building in China as well as ways to make Kohler's production processes more environmentally friendly," said Shultz. "The data I collected on the office's footprint should be valuable in helping Kohler become a more sustainable company."

## Research in Vermont

Closer to Middlebury, Jenny Lindsey '11 did research of another sort. After applying to numerous biology internships, Lindsey took a position in a lab at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. "For 10 weeks I studied certain causative aspects of stroke in the blood vessels of the brain, particularly stroke in women with preeclampsia," said Lindsey. Preeclampsia is a condition in pregnancy characterized by high blood pressure, sometimes with fluid retention — an important topic, if not readily recognizable by your average social science major.

So was it all worth it? Each of the people interviewed did something new and exciting, but, unfortunately, that and a dime will barely get you a cup of coffee. And one might need that coffee the morning after taking advantage of Beatt's delectable fringe benefits: "We got to taste very good champagne after work a few days a week, so I couldn't complain," she said.

Although his use of company products may have been less exciting and his compensation may not have been that impressive on paper, Shultz benefited from a favorable exchange rate. "I made about \$15 per day, but luckily that covers a lot more in China than it does at home."

Back in the United States, Lindsey observed the once mighty titans of business during their humbling falls from prominence. She learned from their experiences and toughed

it out to get through the hard times the old fashioned way — she went to the government. "I was lucky," she said. "So many places didn't have enough funding to hire more people, but the UVM researchers still had money from their grants for us."

## Profitable Experiences

So the benefits were good, but all respectable Middlebury students know there is more to life than money. Fortunately, these students found value in their jobs, each in his or her own way.

"It was very rewarding to see how we made real progress in understanding what is causing this [these common medical problems], even in the few weeks I was there," said Lindsey. "The experience was obviously educational, but also a great preview of medical research as a profession."

While Lindsey's gave her a practical view into a field she considered, Beatt's experience led her in a new direction. "It opened me up to the idea of working abroad after college, as well as the entire idea of working for a 'produit de luxe,'" said Beatt. "I probably am done giving tours, but I could see myself working in marketing or exports potentially."

International business may be right up Shultz's alley, too. "This was my first experience in a business setting and it combined my interests in environmentalism and the Chinese language, so I really enjoyed it," he said. "There is a lot of room for growth in this field, especially internationally, and I want to be a part of it."

Despite the recession, these industrious students went out and found rewarding opportunities to occupy them during the past few months. It was certainly not an easy summer to find employment, but there were still valuable positions to be had. When asked if she had a good summer and bounced back from the initial setbacks, Beatt responded, "Rejection can be hard, but it toughens you up. This experience really broadened my horizons and I'm so glad I did it."

## College institutes 'no-mow' policy

By Liya Gao

STAFF WRITER

In yet another move to reduce Middlebury's carbon emissions, the College has introduced a new "no-mow" policy that is already in effect. Twenty acres on campus — mainly the hillside between Ross commons and Coffrin Hall, and a section by the north side of Porter Field Road — will no longer be mowed, a decision that should reduce the College's carbon footprint by six tons. In addition, the "no-mow" zones are expected to reduce landscape expenses by cutting the number of hours of labor and saving over 670 gallons of fuel each year.

The "no-mow" policy did not originate as a plan to reduce spending costs or even as an effort toward the College's ultimate goal of carbon neutrality in 2016. Tim Parsons, the Middlebury landscape horticulturist who oversees the project, chronicled the history of the idea on his blog, "The Middlebury Landscape." Parsons wrote that the project was originally aimed at increasing and fostering ecological soundness and diversity.

While many students likely view the lush campus as a perfect home for a variety of diverse flora and fauna, Parsons explained that that is not the case. "While at Middlebury we pride ourselves on having beautiful grounds, ecologically it's a desert. Large shade trees and lawns give next to no habitat for pollinators, migrating songbirds, insects, amphibians or even what I call the 'rotters' — the worms, fungi and other organisms responsible for breaking down dead plant matter."

Thus, the "no-mow" policy has become necessary for an entirely new reason — fostering the growth of new habitat for both plants and animals on campus. Parsons explained that having areas on campus grow up into meadows will not only increase diversi-

ty, but will provide refuge and habitat that a green expanse of lawn cannot provide. In addition, the development of the meadow has an academic upside as well, as students can study the biology of the different "no-mow" zones as they grow.

Parsons also hopes that the "no-mow" zones will offset the conformity of the College's landscape by breaking up the large swaths of lawn in the northern parts of the campus. This does appear to be the case, as students have already started noticing the "no-mow" zones.

"From what I've seen, it really isn't going to be a drastic aesthetic change," said Hannah Dzmítrowicz '11, who was on campus working in a lab all summer. "In general, the no-mow zones are in areas that one doesn't really notice. It was kind of nice over the summer because wildflowers grew in some parts. It will be interesting to see what it looks like as we approach autumn, but I don't think the no-mow zones will create any type

of eyesore."

Ashley Litzenberger '11 also spent the summer at the Italian school and had nothing but praise for the changes. "The no-mow zones are actually really pretty and make Middlebury look less manicured. There are wildflowers in the fields. They actually add to the landscape rather than look cheesy or obvious that we are trying to save money. I think Middlebury should have been doing this before the economic downturn."

While reactions to the policy have been positive so far, the Middlebury community will have to wait for the natural development of the landscape before they can truly pass judgment. However, apprehensive parties can rest assured that the College will not let the lawns grow out of control. For safety reasons, the College will regularly mow five-foot wide swaths along sidewalks and paths, and all of the zones will be mowed twice a year to disrupt the life cycle of deer ticks that can spread Lyme disease.

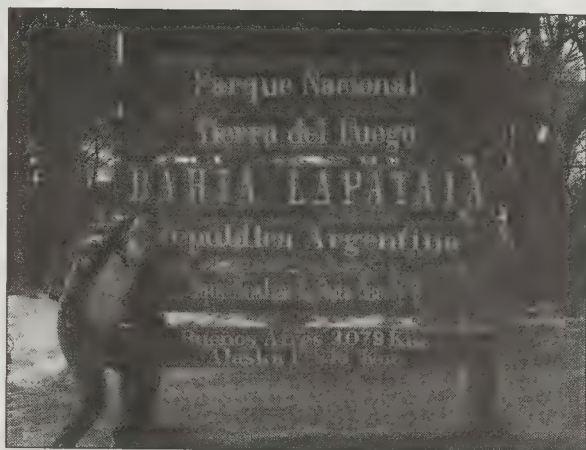


Saila Huusko, Photo Editor

As the ungroomed grasses around Middlebury grow higher, the College saves money and the environment.



# Summer travels heighten student awareness



Courtesy

A lucky few Middlebury students spent their summer months traveling. From left to right: Lauren Fritz '10 in Argentina, Mark Kelly '10 in Peru and Matt Lowes '10 in Uganda.

By Roz Vara

FEATURES EDITOR

College is a unique time — your responsibilities are essentially limited to attending classes and completing your assignments, yet, even those are subject to your discretion. When summer rolls around you can get a meaningless job, bum around at home, get an internship or, if you're really lucky, travel. Of 68 Middlebury students polled in August, 56 percent either worked or had an internship during the summer, 27 percent traveled some and worked some, and a mere three percent traveled for the majority of the summer. But though they may have been few in number, these explorers journeyed to lands as distant as Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Serbia, Kosovo, Croatia, Turkey, Australia, the Czech Republic, Chile, China, Bolivia, Argentina, Nepal, Uganda, India and Peru. What follows is a travel journal series of just a few of the lucky few who were able to travel this summer.

## — PATAGONIA, ARGENTINA —

*Located on the southernmost tip of South America, Patagonia occupies some 260,000 square miles of Argentina and Chile. While the border is not precisely defined, the region is dry and desolate — extending from the striking Andes and the rugged ice fields in Glaciers National Park to the arid east and some of the world's most pristine ocean beaches. Discovered in 1520 by the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan, the area today remains sparsely populated with, in some places, a population density of less than one inhabitant per square kilometer.*

After a semester in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Lauren Fritz '10 decided to remain in the southern hemisphere long enough to explore the southern part of the country. After four months in the capital city, Fritz was eager to escape the dust and chaos that inhabit such urban areas and spend a few weeks trekking through the high country before returning to the states. Fritz's travels took her to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world; to El Calafate, where she explored glaciers; and to Puerto Madryn, where southern right whales go to breed in the winter months.

Like most travelers in a foreign land, Fritz had her frustrations with the bus schedules

and "an overall lack of organization with bus companies and hostels" but in the end learned "how to be flexible and go with the flow." And while the transportation system was maddening, it was easy to be distracted by "so many different landscapes that took my breath away." She described her experience living in hostels for a month as "tedious at times," but found that they were great places to meet other travelers and learn about places to explore that were off the beaten path.

Fritz (like most Middlebury students who study abroad) was focused on improving her language skills as well. She found that living and traveling abroad greatly improved her Spanish and also that "people are more open and willing to talk to you if you speak the language and aren't just another tourist."

Though she feels like she has finished with Buenos Aires in particular, Fritz plans to return to Argentina as "there are so many places throughout the rest of the country that I would love to see for the first time." After her study abroad experience, she now has a number of Argentine friends that she would love to see again someday. "Those kinds of connections and relationships make an impact in your life and I think it's important not to forget the people who made your abroad experience memorable," she said.

## — GULU DISTRICT, UGANDA —

*Uganda's Gulu district is located in the north of the country where it borders seven other districts and the country of Sudan. Most people in this region are farmers, though fighting between the Government of Uganda and the insurgent Lord's Resistance Army has displaced the majority of the population into camps near villages and other trading centers. The Republic of Uganda is located in Eastern Africa and is bordered by Kenya, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Tanzania.*

Matt Lowes '10 spent his summer in northern Uganda's Gulu district working on his senior economics project, which will explore the effect of human displacement on levels of community trust in the small war-torn country. For the past 20 years Uganda has been in the midst of a violent civil conflict between the Lord's Resistance Army and the

Government of Uganda (GoU). In 1996, the GoU forcibly moved the population of northern Uganda to internally displaced persons camps as part of an effort to identify the insurgent rebels. After the population had been relocated, the government considered anyone outside of the camps to be an insurgent and attacked with impunity.

"Trust is an important indicator of development potential," Lowes explained. "If people do not trust each other, they will be less willing to invest or engage in economic activities with each other and conversely, higher levels of trust indicate a greater potential for development." Lowes and his research team rode motorbikes across the rural countryside, through tall grass, fields and streams in order to reach the 23 villages where participants would answer a questionnaire about their families, education, displacement experience and risk and time preferences. He also had them play "experimental economic games" that were designed to measure altruism, trust and risk.

An economics major, Lowes' project enabled him to apply his main interests — the political causes and consequences of civil conflict and the application of economic principles and methods toward investigating political questions — outside of the classroom. Lowes, who received funding from the College, will turn in his paper at the end of fall semester, and hopes to return to Uganda someday.

## — CUZCO, PERU —

*The former capital of the Inca Empire, Cuzco is located in southeastern Peru at a breathtaking 11,000 feet. The city is often described as a door between the Andes mountains, the Amazon jungle and the immense Andean plateau. As many as one million tourists flock each year to the city that was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983. The city, which is believed to have been founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, still contains the remains and foundations of ancient Inca buildings.*

After completing his junior year at Middlebury, Mark Kelly '10 enrolled in a volunteer organization in Peru, bought a plane ticket and flew to Cuzco, where he stayed for nearly nine weeks.

He ended up dividing his time between two main organizations — the Red Cross and an alternative after-school program. Kelly spent his mornings at Hospital Antonio Lorena — the poorest hospital in Cuzco, which mainly treats patients from the rural hills outside the city. With no prior medical experience, Kelly's medical responsibilities were limited, but in the end, he had one of the most important jobs of all — spending time with the patients. Kelly's job was to entertain the patients, talk with them and engage them in conversation that would help their days in the hospital go by faster.

"I spent most of the time in the women's and children's trauma ward," said Kelly, "and because many are so poor and live hours away from town, there wasn't the money or time for their families to visit the hospital. This meant that five-, six- or seven-year-olds were sitting alone in the ward, many unable to get up without help, for weeks at a time."

In the afternoons, Kelly worked at an after-school program in a lower-income community on the outskirts of Cuzco. The children with whom Kelly interacted often faced discrimination — from both students and faculty — at school simply because they were poorer than most students. As a result of their lower socioeconomic statuses, they were frequently ignored and paid less attention which often translated to a poorer quality of education. Kelly and other volunteers worked with these students through a program that used soccer as a vehicle to engage the kids and give them a better education.

Kelly described his time in Peru as one of the most valuable experiences of his life. Between improving his Spanish more in 10 weeks than he ever did during his seven years of Spanish classes in the United States and contemplating the contrasts between Peruvian and North American culture, there are some things, he said, that you can only learn by traveling. However, what he values most are those conversations he had with patients at the hospital or students on the soccer field.

"I remember teaching one girl in our community simple multiplication," said Kelly. "After realizing she could complete one problem on her own, she just turned to me, smiling, and said, 'estoy aprendiendo [I'm learning]'. You can't help but be affected by moments like those. I will always remember their smiles."

## winners



&



## losers

### New Proctor terrace

A beautiful, refurbished patio allows sundress- and flip-flop-clad students to eat outside.

### Fresh faces

The first-years provide newfound energy and entertainment to the College atmosphere.

### Health Center staff

Free nights and weekends — what could be better?

### Language tables

The recent move to Atwater means better food and new seating options.

### Yellowjacket infestation

The plethora of aggressive bees is preventing any attempts to maintain a summer tan.

### Familiar faces

Between departed '09 grads, a surge of new faces and juniors spending time abroad, the College population looks strikingly unfamiliar.

### ER workers

The upcoming '80s dance has the potential to make the T.V. melodrama look tame.

### Atwater commons residents

When the students in the suites need nourishment, continental breakfast just isn't enough.



**news.**  
**local news.**  
**opinions.**  
**features.**  
**arts.**  
**sports.**



*it's all* **online.**

*visit the all-new  
**middleburycampus.com**  
or **go/thecampus**  
today to discuss articles  
and vote in the  
weekly poll.*



# DANCE'TIL YOU DROP

DEDICATED DANCERS  
ATTEND INTENSE  
DAYLONG WORKSHOP

BY JOANNA ROTHKOPF,  
ARTS EDITOR



Middlebury's dance department kicked off the 2009-2010 season on Sept. 4 with a pre-semester workshop led by Bennington College's Susan Sgorbati. Sgorbati introduced herself to the Middlebury community as a former collaborator and classmate of department head Penny Campbell.

The daylong workshop focused on what Sgorbati has coined as "emergent improvisation" — an approach to improvisation deeply connected to scientific concepts. After accidentally being assigned to an office that she shared with a science professor, Sgorbati encoun-

“I feel like until recently the form has been so obvious that nobody has really named it or paid attention to it.”

tered theories that have — often brilliantly — informed her work since then.

“I started to understand that there were things about complex systems and organization that directly intersected with my work,” she said. “There is a phenomenon in science when things are moving around and they are just about to come to a point where they break into a pattern — sometimes they call that self-criticality — and I could really relate to that. I thought that experience was something that only happened in improvisation with dancers, and to find out that connections in the brain happened that way, and that cells multiply and divide this way and that birds migrate this way was so eye-opening.”

SEE PAGE 19 ...



editors'  
picks

11

**Middlebury  
ArtsWalk  
Throughout  
Middlebury  
5-7 p.m.**

Walking tours throughout the town of Middlebury and the MCFA highlight art exhibitions and displays this Friday night. Stores in town will stay open late and restaurants are offering specials to ArtsWalk participants.

11

**Big Action  
performance  
ensemble  
51 Main  
5-8 p.m.**

Big Action performance ensemble, Artist-in-Residence Tiffany Rhynard's company, will perform at 51 Main as part of this month's ArtsWalk. Middlebury alumni will perform excerpts from their production "Disposable Goods."

12

**MCAB presents:  
Stephen Kellogg  
and the Sixers  
Ross Courtyard  
4 p.m.**

The acoustic rock band will play as part of MCAB's Fall Frenzy in traditional outdoor music festival style. Come down to the lawn, folding chair in hand, or just open your window to hear this nationally touring artist.

15

**Fall dance  
concert  
auditions  
MCFA  
7 p.m.**

Auditions for the fall dance concert will be held by advanced student choreographers. Simon Thomas-Train '09 will seek dancers for the annual "Newcomer's Piece," which is open to anyone who has not yet performed in a dance program sponsored event.



FOR THE  
record

by Alex Blair and Dickie Redmond

ARTIST | Wilco  
ALBUM | Wilco (*The Album*)

This fall, Alex Blair '10 and Dickie Redmond '10 will be alternating as music critics for *The Campus*, starting with this shared review.

**Dickie Redmond:** "Wilco (*The Album*)" possesses a certain quality that makes it perfectly easy to positively review — a certain type of maturity that comes from an unstable past, a resolved dependability that takes form after a period of general caprice.

Fortunately, "Wilco (*The Album*)" does more than flaunt newfound maturity — it is an extremely enjoyable record from start to finish. And, for a band that has been so much over the years — from alt-country, to virtually experimental, to straight-up rock 'n' roll — it makes sense that Wilco (*The Band*) comes closest to defining themselves, the indefinable, in their latest release.

**Alex Blair:** Wilco has never been satisfied with restricting itself to one style or sound. With the release of their seventh LP, many believed that the band would continue developing their sound in innovative and unexpected ways.

The album's opening track, the aptly titled "Wilco (*The Song*)," is a tongue-in-cheek rocker about the healing powers of the band's music. Jeff Tweedy assures us that no matter how rough the road is or how tough times get, "Wilco will love you, baby." Comforting words, indeed. If the opener seems a little too loose by Wilco's standards, that's because it is. For this song, at least, Tweedy (the band's primary lyricist) has abandoned his usual poetic meditations on humanity, death and flawed relationships to give us a playful pop-rock gem. With its bouncy rhythm, lighthearted lyrics and thundering guitars, "Wilco (*The Song*)" is one of the highlights.

**DR:** Summer radio hit "You Never Know" had my father questioning that we were in fact listening to Wilco: "This sounds just like George Harrison, doesn't it?" "I'll Fight" — a bouncy, upbeat ballad whose vocal persistence and repetition makes it all the more powerful — has similar hit potential. And "You and I" — a makeout-worthy duet between frontman Tweedy and Feist — is almost comically placed after the murder freak-out "Bull Black Nova."

Other standouts include "Deeper Down" where precise songwriting craft, venturesome lyrics and intricate song divisions meet to tell a tale of ultimate defeat. And strong album closer "Everlasting Everything" is romantically fatalistic — a song whose chorus builds to grandiose orchestral assertiveness while the verse remains humble enough to allow Tweedy to show off his vocal fragility.

After avoiding the critical "box" for so long, Wilco has finally put themselves in their own "box" — perhaps beating the critics to it, allowing the band to define their own sound. And the result is an almost — though necessary — spasmodic collection of tunes that is a great listen for any music fan, especially those excited to see a Wilco self-titled album.

**AB:** "Wilco (*The Album*)" is not going to blow minds and turn the music world upside down like the band's 2002 experimental-pop masterpiece, "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot," but that's not their intention this time around. Wilco set out to make a rock album, nothing more, and they succeeded admirably. There isn't dull moment or wrong note anywhere on these 11 songs and, unlike many of their past releases, "Wilco (*The Album*)" isn't a difficult listen. It's just a fun, catchy record that blows the pants off most other mainstream LPs released in 2009. It also makes for a great recession album. If these tough economic times are bringing you down, just pop on the title track and remember that no matter what, "Wilco will love you."

## Massey's overture taking shape

By Dana Walters  
ARTS EDITOR

Middlebury's newest orchestra conductor, Andrew Massey, can write with ease about the aesthetic appeal of quantum physics, the philosophical nature of truth and the structure of Ravel's "Bolero." And just as soon as the intimidation has properly set in, he compares Beethoven's ninth symphony to Paris Hilton. Both are "famous just for being famous," he writes.

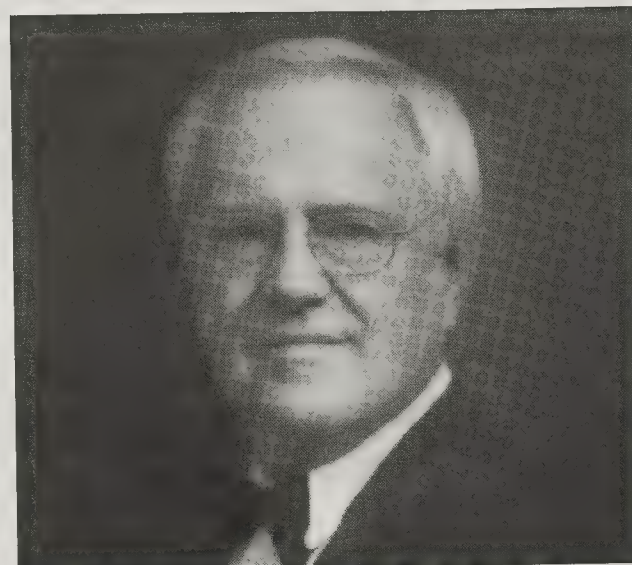
When reading his words, the highbrow persona swiftly falls away to reveal down-to-earth character who even mocks his own status as a "music buff." His myriad writings in the spheres of blogging and academia reveal that he dabbles in almost everything — music, philosophy, science, politics and, perhaps most importantly, humility. One of Massey's blogs, "Le Grenouille dans le Fauteuil," assents his credo: "I am against certainty and believe the most interesting thing you can do with a mind, especially your own, is to change it."

Massey arrives at Middlebury with a nomadic background. After receiving a B.A. and M.A. from Oxford University, and another M.A. from University of Nottingham, he taught and conducted in London for 10 years before an insatiable thirst for escape took hold. A pilgrimage to the great trees of the U.S. ended when he won the role of assistant conductor with the Cleveland Orchestra. Since then, Massey has freelanced his way across the globe, working with the Toledo Symphony, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Oregon Mozart Players, the Green Mountain Mahler Festival and the City Chamber Orchestra in Hong Kong, among others. Doing away with the concept of free time, he also composes, teaches, lectures and writes on the side.

An unlikely career for someone that admits to piano practice-induced stomachaches, music caught Massey accidentally after he heard a band on a steamboat at the age of four. The sounds were "undeniable emotional meat," transfixing him until his life pursuits had essentially been chosen for him.

Later, Massey's insatiable need to fix others' mistakes turned him into a conductor. "When people didn't play my music correctly or with much insight, I had to take over and tell them how to play it," he said. "And while I was at it, they were playing Brahms pretty badly too, so I would take over and tell them how to play *that*. Pretty soon, I was collecting people together so that I could tell them how to play Schoenberg — and so, by default, as it were, I found myself being a conductor."

Today, he embraces a malleable attitude toward conducting based on the revolutionary idea that "musicians are people too." Believing that each player has a different personality and ability, he only discovers how to properly teach an orchestra



Courtesy

Andrew Massey is looking forward to working with students in his new position as orchestra conductor.

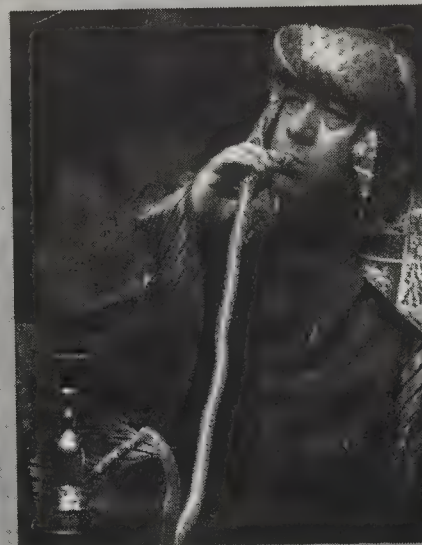
after feeling out the various sensibilities of the people involved.

"I have to accept responsibility," Massey said, "but it is a situation of mutual response, in which I am exploring and listening to find out what is possible, what is happening, and then figuring out ways of building on that."

This open-minded attitude also pervades his writings. Sometimes he writes about a deep respect for certain conductors and pieces, while other times, he deconstructs the ridiculousness that exists in clinging to old musical traditions.

"When the music says 'slow down,' that is just an instruction about how to play a certain bit," Massey observed in a post on his music blog. "But when it says, in Italian, *ritardando*, it sounds more exotic and like a thing, a name, and pretty soon people are actually talking about 'the ritardando' as if it were an independent thing." The depth of thought he invests in musical directions extends just as much towards every aspect of life, and he writes with humble clarity upon subjects even as mundane as the process of hard boiling an egg.

This accessible humor will no doubt aid students in embracing their new conductor. Live auditions for the position in May gave many of the orchestra members a chance to assess the assembled candidates. Peter Hamlin, chair of the music department, described one piece of Massey's audition as "magic." With any luck, the new conductor will spellbind the audience just as well as he has the players, his baton transforming into a wand before their eyes.



Grace Duggan

## SUMMER ARTS AT MIDDLEBURY: LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

The Middlebury arts scene remained active and buzzing with creativity this summer. Many students at the Language Schools expressed their creative sides through various artistic displays and theater productions, all presented in the students' target languages. The Spanish School's "Galaor" and the Russian School's "Pushkinopol" were two theatrical performances that showcased summer language students' readiness to experiment with performance art in foreign languages.



# Annual conference gives students head star

By Tamara Hilmes  
ARTS EDITOR

For many of the 232 contributors who attended the 84th annual Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in August, the living conditions in the Inn and the gold-colored cabins surrounding it may have felt like a return to the crazy days of a college undergrad. But passé wallpaper patterns aside, the 14 Middlebury College students in attendance this year had no trouble feeling right at home in the dormitory-style rooms with communal bathrooms just down the hall.

Out of the 14 students that were accepted into the 2009 conference, 11 are current students, while three graduated in May. Some were welcomed into the conference under the auspices of Middlebury Student Scholarship, and others came as contributors or auditors. Regardless of his or her title, each undergraduate or recent graduate came to Bread Loaf with a common goal: to eat, sleep and breathe creative writing. By attending daily lectures, multiple readings and workshops for a week and a half, the participants were exposed to the work and expertise of experienced and published writers, as well as that of the other contributors.

Bread Loaf has a tradition of encouraging young writers. During the conference Middlebury College Lecturer in English and American Literatures David Bain related an anecdote involving a young and eager Truman Capote sneaking into parties held in the faculty house, the famed Treman Cottage. Bain related the story during his annual slideshow on the history of the Conference. Though the Middlebury students participating in this year's conference were not quite so presumptuous, they certainly took advantage of the opportunity set before them.

Each student attending the conference, apart from the two auditors, were required to submit a manuscript upon application to be printed and distributed to the nine or so other members of his or her workshop group. These other members of the groups ranged in age from 24 to 80. Despite being the clear minority, the group of undergraduates managed to hold their own during the two-hour long critiquing sessions held throughout the conference.

Apart from workshops, students were also invited to participate in the Blue Parlor readings with the rest of the contributors. These intimate, informal and therefore less intimidating readings were held nightly and welcomed unpublished writers to share their work. Sam Collier '09 and Lily Weckler '09.5 not only participated in the nightly event, but decided to organize their own, a reading they dubbed "Rising Loaf," which was open to anyone at the conference "young enough to be carded." Collier read original poetry, while Weckler chose to share a song — poetry set to music.

"White lights in the city of debt/Baby's got a pile of money to pay the rent," Weckler crooned to the small handful of young writers who gathered in the Blue Parlor late one evening, sharing her critique of our capitalist society in musical form.

While gaining exposure for their work was a primary benefit of attending the workshop, students were also given the opportunity to listen and analyze the work of more experienced writers. Each evening, one of the members of the renowned faculty would approach the podium in the Little Theater and lull the audience into quiet awe. Students saw a familiar face when Middlebury College

Professor of English and American Literatures Rob Cohen took the floor one evening to read from his newest novel "Amateur Barbarians," which follows a character dubbed "Dr. Dave" on his journeys through Eastern Africa.

Though the conference bolstered the spirit of young and upcoming writers, Michael Collier also gave a nod dur-



Bread Loaf scholars and faculty, including prolific poet Arthur Sze, gather following a reading.

ing the closing banquet dinner to a Bread Loaf mainstay: caretaker Leo Hotte, who recently announced his retirement at the age of 61. As the conference came to a close, Collier and company raised their glasses to Hotte, a man who had worked "at loss" behind the scenes for almost 40 years.

## Day workshop blends science with improv

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

The workshop consisted of two two-hour long segments in which dancers had the opportunity to work on both solo and group forms.

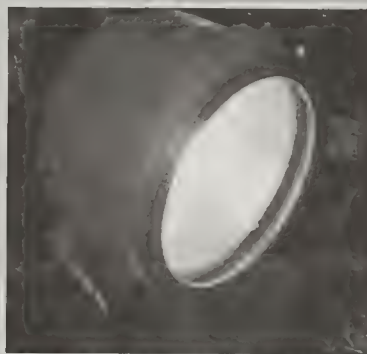
"I loved the way she introduced the workshop with bird images," dance major Allie Astolfi '11 reflected, "because it brought a unique perspective to the improvisation techniques she taught us."

Indeed, Sgorbati's vision was original and precise.

"If you think of improvisation as an evolution, as a process in nature that gets us to adapt — that literally helps us to adapt to the next environmental factors that are influencing us — then it's a real structural process," she explained. "It's not coincidence, it's not chance, it's something that's known as a part of life. But I feel like until recently the form has been so obvious that nobody has really named it or paid attention to it."

Sgorbati applies her philosophy to all aspects of life. She also works as a mediator for The Vermont Human Rights Commission and in this capacity, she equates conflict with chaos:

"[The people in question] want to come into some new order together because they have conflicting interests, and if they participate in my improvisational emergent structuring they actually come out with a new order," she said. "And the scientists helped me realize this. They said, 'Listen, this isn't just about science as a thing over here that you study — this is about life, this is about everything you see that's living that has built in complexity.' It's not just about studying science. It's like a paradigm shift — it makes you see differently because you're reading complexity now."



## Spotlight ON... Sonia Hsieh '10.5

This summer, hundreds of dancers flocked to Durham, N.C. for the annual American Dance Festival. Dance and English and American literatures double major Sonia Hsieh '10.5 represented Middlebury at their six-week program. *The Campus'* Joanna Rothkopf sat down with her last week.

**The Middlebury Campus:** Dance festivals are great because of all the new people, ideas and styles of dance to which they expose you. What did you find at ADF this year that was new?

**Sonia Hsieh:** So many things! The theme for this year's festival was "Where Ballet and Modern Meet," so I saw a lot of classical movement vocabulary with more traditional choreographic arrangements, a lot of theatrical dance works, and just some really gorgeous dances. As for specific dance styles, I was particularly struck by Ohad Naharin's gaga dance technique because it uses a lot of bound energy. Also, Shen Wei's use of breath and spirals was fascinating as was exploring William Forsythe's improvisational technologies.

**MC:** Did you go to ADF to work on anything in particular? Did you end up working on anything in particular?

**SH:** I still consider myself a dance neophyte having only danced for about two years, so I saw this summer as my chance to catch up on some major technique. I really loved my ballet teacher and ended up taking ballet classes practically every day. Unfortunately, my fifth position still looks like I am in parallel. Pathetic!

**MC:** Did you come away with any new ideas for choreography? Music? Stories?

**SH:** Yeah. There is just a huge swirl of images, sounds and movement ideas floating around in my head right now. I can't wait to get back to the studio and sift through them all.

**MC:** What was the biggest challenge of the summer? How did you deal with it?

**SH:** I guess the Durham heat, the general intensity of

dancing for six-plus hours a day and dancer egos were all beasts I had to contend with, but luckily I found a group of friends that were all really grounded. Also, having fellow student Christian Morel '11 there with me didn't hurt.

**MC:** While you were at ADF, did you feel as though you had really picked up a "Middlebury style" while here? How is it different or distinctive?



Courtesy

**SH:** There were definitely moments where I felt the Middlebury influence was working in my favor. Inversions, being comfortable on my hands and going to the floor, improvising and having a more released approach to movement are all 'Middlebury Style' strengths, I think. Also, Middlebury is really strong when it comes to reinforcing proper anatomical alignment.

**MC:** OK, the big question: Durham in summer or Middlebury in winter?

**SH:** North Cackalacky, baby!

**MC:** You're coming back now for your last full year. Have you set yourself any dance goals for the year ahead? Other goals?

**SH:** Well, I'm a Feb, so there is still time. But yes, I have a lot of goals in mind. The main one, though, is to keep dancing and loving to dance. Oh, and to get you to dance for me in the fall. That probably isn't a fair trade is it?

— Joanna Rothkopf, Arts Editor



THE REEL  
CRITIC

by Andrew Elliman  
"The Movie Buff Naked"

**MOVIE** | *Inglourious Basterds*  
**DIRECTOR** | Quentin Tarantino  
**STARRING** | Brad Pitt, Melanie  
Laurent, Christoph Waltz

Let's consider what makes an artist great. Regardless of style, period or even medium, the catalog of every great artist shares at least one thing in common: evolution. Dylan went electric, Picasso went cubist, Spears went crazy. Throughout history, an artist's greatness has always hinged upon his or her capacity to expand creatively.

Whether or not his critics, audiences or colleagues agree, Quentin Tarantino certainly considers himself a great artist. And while his work has always paid homage to the films that inspire him, his latest piece can be most aptly defined as a tribute to himself.

Since the early 90s, when the successes of *Reservoir Dogs* and *Pulp Fiction* thrust him into American cultural

significance, Tarantino has refused to evolve, crafting a body of work that strictly adheres to his own particular set of artistic eccentricities — so strictly, in fact, that it's almost difficult to tell the movies apart. See if you can tell which Tarantino movie I'm describing: it has a non-linear storyline broken up into chapters, pithy dialogue, a casually grotesque use of violence and an ironically irreverent soundtrack. Narrowed it down? Didn't think so.

This isn't to say that *Inglourious Basterds* is a complete failure of a movie. It is entertaining. Per usual, Brad Pitt delivers, in this case as the Nazi scalping Lieutenant Aldo Raine. Infamously known throughout the German ranks as 'Aldo the Apache,' he leads a covert platoon of Jewish American soldiers whose sole mission is to savagely kill as many Nazis as possible, instilling a blood-curdling fear in the heart of the enemy.

While Pitt excels as the hilarious American commander, the performance of the movie belongs to Austrian actor Christoph Waltz in his turn as SS Colonel Hans Landa, also known as 'the Jew Hunter'. Critics are calling the role a parody of sorts, playing as it does off the conventional depiction of the Nazi in contemporary American cinema. Think Ralph Fiennes in *Schindler's List*: civilized and charming one moment, sociopathic and barbaric the next. Tarantino has always strived to explore the boundaries between good and evil with his characters. But not with Colonel Landa. He is your textbook hair-raising villain, and Waltz nails it.

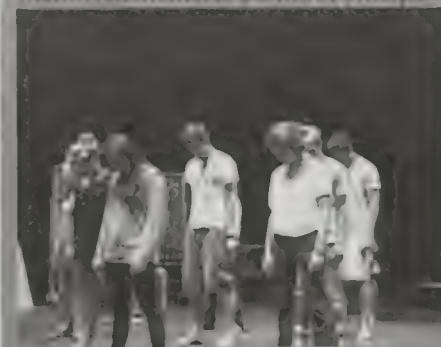
Yet while the movie soars as it follows the Basterds on their tear through occupied France — including the fiendish exploits of the 'Jew Hunter' — it stalls in the remaining subplots. The core of the film splits nearly equal screen time with the tale of an escaped French Jew in her pursuit of vengeance against the Nazis. And while she can really wear a pair of slacks (bonsoir indeed), she can't keep pace with Pitt and Waltz. Tarantino struggles to adhere to his own formulaic approach to storytelling, but building his typically meandering, disparate narratives and relating them to a common end just doesn't work for *Inglourious Basterds* the way it did for *Pulp Fiction*. The film is held hostage by his technique.

Make no mistake. I am a Quentin Tarantino fan. I've always admired his unique perspective on the American movie experience. But with his latest efforts, *Kill Bill* and *Inglourious Basterds*, I'm starting to lose patience. I suppose I should be shocked when I see a Nazi nonchalantly drink a glass of milk before slaughtering a family of refugee Jews. But I've already seen a pair of hit men talk cheeseburgers before pumping lead into an apartment full of college kids. The same can be said for watching a theater full of Nazis become engulfed in flames as an obscure David Bowie track sets the score. Why bother, when the image of Michael Madsen butchering a cop to the smooth sounds of "Steeler's Wheel" has already been burned into my memory? I am now completely desensitized. And while Quentin Tarantino clearly still amuses himself, he no longer amuses me.

## artsbrief

## VOICES OF THE CLASS '09

This year's orientation show was quite unlike those of years past — rather than taking direct quotes from a handful of application essays, Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton and his team of students put together an original script based on answers that students submitted to a series of prompts.



Ryan Kellett

Prompt one asked to students to complete the phrase, "when I was six-years old I believed..."



Ryan Kellett

## The Middlebury Campus

If you don't get it,  
we'll get it for you.





INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

In one of the lowest points in the history of *Inside the Locker Room*, this week's competition revealed a stunning lack of serious effort on the part of our contestants — or perhaps Middlebury athletes simply do not take this exercise in team bonding seriously anymore. Is the glory of winning this challenge no longer appealing enough? Should the stakes be raised higher?

In any case, the collective sum of Mr. Waters' and Mr. Guevara's efforts amounted to nothing more than a single point. Moreover, the winning question was pertained to "getting chicks." Not impressive, my friends.

Waters, Hallett's roommate and teammate, though he hardly qualifies as the victor in this situation, proved he's onto Hallett's flirtatious tendencies — though co-captain Guevara was keen to point out Hallett's obsession with Assistant Coach Nicole Wilkerson (Nicole, if I were you, I would watch out). How can an Oceanography TA, varsity sport co-captain, and SGA cabinet member

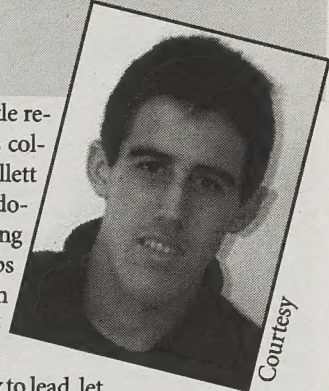
The Campus catches up to Bruce Hallett '10 for an interview

	Bruce Hallett	Victor Guevara	Mike Waters
Where is Bruce's favorite place to run?	TAM	Away from Assistant Coach Nicole Wilkerson. (0)	Beer run to Bevco. (0)
Which running shoes does he use?	Adidas Response Cushion 17.	New Balance 749, size 12. (0)	Guardian QuickFit crutches. (0)
What is the best part about being a co-captain?	The chicks.	Driving the vans. (0)	Facilitates creeping on first-year girls. (1)
Which sport would Bruce play if he didn't run?	Sweet lax.	Wiffle ball. He brings the heat. (0)	Quidditch, no question. (0)
What is Bruce's biggest weakness?	Kryptonite.	Asst. Coach Nicole Wilkerson. (0)	Arms. (0)
Who is Bruce's celebrity crush?	Creed.	Asst. Coach Nicole Wilkerson. (0)	Bruce Springsteen. (0)
What is Bruce most passionate about?	The Bros.	Having barbeques. (0)	The New York Yankees. (0)
Final Score:		0	1

demand so little respect from his colleagues? Hallett must not be doing something right. Perhaps his devotion to "The Bros" is taking away from his ability to lead, let alone inspire fear in the competition?

Perhaps Hallett's heart is just too big, and his carefree nature too strong to fight. On the other hand, he demonstrated significant bravado in linking himself to Superman when he admitted that kryptonite is his only weakness. Though Hallett's ways may remain a mystery, his good nature — or simply his ability to be the butt of jokes — will hopefully help lead the team to success this season. Just take it easy on Bruce while he is on crutches, boys!

—Emma Gardner, Sports Editor



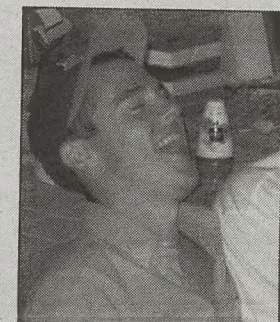
Courtesy

NOW SEEKING WRITERS FOR ALL SECTIONS

e-mail campus@middlebury.edu

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	Last week	Team	Carpenter's Comments
1	—	Women's cross country	NCAA champs = Tops on the 'Great Eight.'
2	—	Men's soccer	Tufts is a joke. Please.
3	—	Football	As long as no one pulls a Plaxico and shoots himself in the leg, I see good things.
4	—	Field Hockey	Chase Delano '11 and her 61 points in 2008 for the win.
5	—	Women's soccer	(See 'Men's soccer' above)
6	—	Volleyball	Competing at the Potsdam Invitational...will Stalin and Truman be present?
7	—	Men's cross country	Living in the women's shadow for now.
8	—	The Campus sports editors	Three girls on the sports staff? Talk about progressive.



Courtesy

Our trusty sports editor Kevin Carpenter '11.5 weighs in on sports one last time before he heads to Prague.

Editors' Picks



Guest editor of the week

Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Emma Gardner	Katie Siegner	Tess Russell, M.E.
Who will win the men's US Open?	ROGER FEDERER He's back, baby.	FEDERER He has that Swiss thing going on... and his post-match v-neck cardigan is so sexy.	FEDERER Federer and Nadal win everything, and Nadal is injured.	RAFA He just got kissed by some psychotic male fan as I was writing this — but can you really blame the guy?
How many goals will Field Hockey phenom Chase Delano '11 score against Tufts?	4 She scored 3 in last year's opener. She's a year older. One more goal...	5 Chase is sicknastyyyyyyyyyy!	3 A hat trick seems respectable.	4 Because I said so.
Will Katie's twin sister Laney, a Tufts soccer star, score in Saturday's game vs. the Panthers?	NO I don't believe in psychic powers...	NO I have to root for mah grrrrrrllssssss! So, no. Sorry!	YES! Since we're psychic, I wouldn't doubt me on this one.	YES My Ouija board warned me about incurring the wrath of twins, so ...
Will the Red Sox clinch the wild card?	REALLY? Absolutely not.	NO Ew.	ABSOLUTELY We live for the wild card. The Sox have won the wild card a record six times since it was created in 1995. Keep the faith!	NO What is it they say? Being a Red Sox fan is like dating a girl that hates you? Hope it holds true this year.
Will an injured Tom Brady play in the Patriots' season opener vs. the Bills on Monday night?	YES Bill Belichick will do anything to lie, cheat and steal his way onto the field.	NO Ew.	YES He's hot.	YES I've seen Emma's research techniques for these. And her record.
Career Record	0-0 (.000)	41-54 (.432)	0-0 (.000)	0-0 (.000)



# LET THE GAMES BEGIN

## THE PANTHER ATHLETICS FALL PREVIEW

### CROSS COUNTRY

As the fall sports season approaches, Cross Country Head Coach Terry Aldrich has a strong platform of success from which to project his newest team. His women's team will return not only as defending NCAA champions, but also as the 2008 NCAA Cross Country Scholar Team of the Year. His men's team, meanwhile, returns hungry from a bittersweet finish of sixth place in the region, which left them one spot away from provisionally qualifying for nationals in 2008. Aldrich enters the 2009 season after receiving his fifth award as national coach of the year from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. These, however, are only the dry facts. The optimism and desire displayed by his returning athletes lend only a greater sense of confidence to one of Middlebury's finest athletic programs.

"I think the team will speak for itself this year," said Georgia Wright-Simmons '12. Despite losing three seniors, one an All-American who finished in the top 10 at nationals last year, the women's team boasts six returning national champions and a

talented group of incoming first-years. Annie Sullivan '10 and Emily Jacobs '10 will captain the women's team.

The men's team, with Bruce Hallett '10 and Victor Guevara '10 assuming leadership, will focus on staying healthy this season. In the past, injuries and burnouts have dealt the team major setbacks. In order to achieve its goal of competing at the national championships, the men's team needs to stay strong throughout the season. The team graduated five seniors, three of whom were top-seven runners. They have seven recruits joining their team, some of whom may be contributing members from the start.

The two most critical meets for Middlebury Cross Country will be NESCACs and the regional championships in mid-November. These two meets will be important in determining whether the men have an opportunity to compete for the national title, and whether the women can repeat their stunning performance of 2008.

—Emma Hodge, Staff Writer

### VOLLEYBALL

At the beginning of the school year, most of us begin thinking about papers, tests and what the color scheme should be for our dorm room this year. This year's volleyball squad, on the other hand, arrives on campus with other concerns on their minds. Ending last season in the NESCAC tournament with a 15-11 record, the women's team returns to campus this fall ready to compete.

Tri-captain Natalie DuPre '10 described the volleyball squad's positive attitude as they look towards the upcoming season. "We are all excited and look forward to building a stronger team, focusing on our game and working harder than any team that comes our way," said DuPre. With four seniors graduating last year, DuPre and her two co-captains, Reisa Bloch '10 and Lauren Barrett '11, lead a team that includes five incoming and nine returning players.

The first-years — Caitlin Barrett '13, a defensive specialist/setter, Sarah Stedwell '13, an outside hitter, Maddie Firestone '13, a middle hitter, Charlotte Heilbronn '13, a defensive specialist, and Emily Corder '13, a setter — will round out an experienced team that is look-

ing to advance farther in the NESCAC tournament than they did last season, when they lost a close match to a formidable Williams squad in the first round. (Williams went on to the Elite Eight in NCAAs.)

Although last season's move to Fletcher Field House, also known as the Bubble, created a strange atmosphere to play in, DuPre believes that it allowed the team to work on their blocks, strengthening its defense. In fact, the team finished last season ranked first in the conference in both blocks and defensive digs, as well as in the top three for service aces.

They look forward to building upon these skills this season by adding even more offensive power while maintaining their strong defense. Some highlights of the season will occur during October when the squad plays NESCAC teams on three consecutive weekends, especially the weekend of Oct. 16-17 when the team will be at home in Pepin Gym taking on Tufts, Bowdoin and Hamilton.

—Amy Francisco, Staff Writer

### MEN'S TENNIS

After a strong spring season last year that produced a NESCAC league championship and a top five national ranking, the Middlebury men's tennis team, with a slew of new talent to mix with the old, looks forward to another successful season under head coach Dave Schwarz.

Schwarz enters his 10th year as head coach of the men's tennis program at Middlebury after being honored as the ITA Men's Northeast Coach of the year for 2009. In nine seasons, Schwarz has led the Panthers to national prominence with an impressive 151-35 record, including a 21-3 mark last year (the team's second-highest win total in history) en route to the team's eighth straight trip to the NCAA tournament. The Panthers eventually lost in the quarterfinal round to Amherst.

As last year's team did not graduate any senior players, this season's group has emerged with a strong core of experienced veterans who will likely set the tone for the fall. The team's underclassmen will look to returning tri-captains Andrew Lee '10, Andrew Thomson '10 and Conrad Olson '10 for leadership and

unity, reinforced by fellow seniors Peter Odell '10, Eliot Jia '10 and Chris Mason '10. The previous season, Olson, Thomson and rookie David Farah were all ITA Division III All-Americans.

Four first-year recruits and a stacked pool of sophomores and juniors rounds the roster out to 17, meaning many talented players may see little to no playing time. But the already ultra-competitive team will need all the help it can get.

"We're very excited to see how our new players fit in and help the team remain national threats," said Thomson, "but our opponents are also stronger this year." Amherst and Williams, historically two of the Panthers' toughest opponents, have also bolstered already competitive squads with many talented recruits.

However, this year looks promising for the Panthers. With more talent and experience, a strong preseason and some good fan support, Middlebury could well be poised to perhaps dominate Division III tennis. "I'm ready to get this started," said an excited Lee. "This is our year."

—Will Sifton, Staff Writer

### WOMEN'S TENNIS

Middlebury women's tennis kicked off its season in style with a visit to the U.S. Open on Sept. 1, an event that brought together incoming first-years, current players, alumni, parents and Coach Michael Morgan. The team graduated three seniors this past spring — Elizabeth Stone '09, Clare Burke '09 and Chandra Kurien '09 — but now welcomes a solid incoming class of five new players: Leigh McAtee '13, Lauren Kelly '13, Blake Harries '13, Leah Kepping '13 and Brittney Faber '13. Under the leadership of newly elected senior captains Annie Weinberg '10 and Jamie Haar '10, Morgan believes the team has the potential to do quite well.

"I'm not willing to make any predictions, as every season is a new challenge," said Morgan. "It will be a completely new dynamic, as it is every year. It sounds like quite a few of the ladies have worked hard over the summer, so I am definitely looking forward to getting things rolling on Sept. 7." Despite graduating three of their starting singles players, the team is returning their number one player and a deep roster of other singles players.

Sophomore Tori Aiello '12, who played at the number one spot all spring, proved herself as a rookie, as she was recently named to the 2009 ITA Division III Women's All-American Team. She advanced to the round of 16 at the NCAA Individual Championships in May before losing in the second round. She was also named NESCAC and ITA Rookie of the Year in the Northeast. In addition to Aiello, returning to the team are Anna Burke '12, Hilary Cunningham '12, Alex Guynn '12 and Alyssa Puccinelli '12 along with the two senior captains. With a fairly large roster of 13 players, there certainly will be stiff competition for the remaining singles spots. Morgan has proven his recruiting prowess since he took the reins in 2006, landing five new players per year in 2008 and 2009. With this type of depth on the team, they certainly have the potential to do well this season and in years to come. The team begins competing on Sept. 18 at the ITA Regionals at MIT.

—Alex Lovett-Woodsum, Staff Writer



## WOMEN'S SOCCER

After ending its season with a tough loss to Amherst in the semi-finals of the NESCAC tournament last fall, the women's soccer team stepped onto the field this preseason with a strong group of veteran players as well as 10 new first-years, ready to continue their quest for a NESCAC title.

The team graduated six seniors, and now has a wealth of new talent from which to build a skilled team capable of contending in the competitive NESCAC division. Led by Tri-captains Anjuli Demers '10 (who won third-team All-New England honors last fall), Lindsay Walker '10 and Margaret Owen '10, the women expect to challenge their perennial rivals Amherst and Williams when they match up later in October. For now, however, Head Coach Peter Kim is taking a more focused view of the team's upcoming season opener. "We're just looking forward

to Tufts," Kim said, adding that the team has "become a really cohesive group" during preseason, yet preseason is not only about bonding as a team, but about pushing players to improve and taking the team's potential to the next level.

"It's been coming together really well," said Walker. She said that the team recognizes that they have to push each other in order to improve, noting that in practices the players "have been going at each other and making each other better."

Women's soccer opens its season this Saturday with a home game against Tufts, and after putting much time and effort into a grueling preseason, the Panthers are poised to be formidable opponents to every team that takes the field against them.

—Katie Siegner, Sports Editor

## GOLF

After an impressive spring season, the Middlebury men's golf team is looking to continue last year's success through the coming school year. The Panthers' last season culminated in a NESCAC title, the program's third, which earned them their second bid to the NCAA tournament held in Port St. Lucie, Fla. The team finished 29th overall, led by returning players Jimmy Levins '11, Captain Ben Kunofsky '09.5 and Brian Cady '11.

The small team, which graduated three seniors last spring, may feel a little smaller this season, but the addition of three incoming first years and a sophomore should help fill the gaps left by Ashley Miller '09, Kyle Perez '09 and Michael McCormick '09. The team kicks off its season at home on the Ralph Myhre Golf Course with the Duke Nelson Tournament the weekend of Sept. 26-27. Twenty-five teams are expected to compete in the inaugural match, with Middlebury looking to establish a reputation early to carry into its next four or five tournaments.

The women's team also wrapped up last spring swinging, tying a 2007 school

record with an eighth-place finish in the NCAA championships also held in Port St. Lucie, Fla. in May. While still a relatively young team, earning its varsity status in 2003, women's golf has progressed quickly, earning bids in the NCAA tournament in three consecutive springs from 2007-2009. The Panthers open the season at St. Lawrence this Saturday under the leadership of new Head Coach Bill Mandigo.

Lacking the strong play of juniors Jessica Bluestein and Courtney Mazzei, who are both abroad this season, the women's team will definitely have to adjust. Ashley Sandy '11 expressed that "the team is really going to miss them," but Flora Weeks '11 and the incoming talent of first-years Keely Levins '13, Victoria Chiang '13 and Christine Schozer '13 should help fill the void and poise the team for another strong showing this season, with "the hope," as Weeks expressed, "to defend our NESCAC title."

—Alyssa O'Gallagher, Sports Editor

## FOOTBALL

Following a NESCAC championship in 2007, the Middlebury football team managed to snag third place in NESCAC standings in 2008 with an impressive 38-24 win over the Tufts Jumbos to cap off the season. The Panthers, who finished with a 5-3 record, are looking to improve upon last year's success in the regular season and push further into the postseason this fall.

The loss of several graduated seniors, including former captain Andrew Matson '09, Brendan Kelly '09, Charlie Holm '09, Blake Berman '09 and Tyler Owens '09 will leave the team with some holes to fill, but head coach Bob Ritter notes, "we have been pleased to see some of our young guys step up and replace last year seniors." The Panthers, hailed last season as having the best-ranked offense in the NESCAC, will especially be looking to fill the cleats of Kelly and Berman, who were responsible for anchoring the ever-important offensive line last year.

The renewed presence of quarterback Donnie McKillop '11, who missed the final two games of the season last fall due to an injury to his non-throwing

arm, should breathe new life back into the passing offense this season. Citing one of Middlebury football's lesser known statistics, its NCAA-wide record for the most plays run per game, wide receiver Tim Monaghan '10 expressed a desire to "continue the fast pace of play" this season in the hopes of keeping NESCAC rivals on their toes.

Eric Kamback '10 returns this year to the position of linebacker as the newly knighted captain of the defense and should provide a strong foundation and leadership for younger players. Also providing new leadership for the defense will be recently hired assistant coach and linebacker specialist David Szentesy.

Middlebury's season opener at Bowdoin on September 26 should be an indicator of where the Panthers' strengths and weaknesses lie and what they will have in store for the upcoming season. As Ritter puts in, "the team's theme is 1-0, so that we stay focused on the task at hand. The next game."

—Alyssa O'Gallagher, Sports Editor

## FIELD HOCKEY

After falling to perennial rival Bowdoin in last fall's NCAA Division-III finals, the Middlebury field hockey team is ready to terminate the competition once and for all this season. Reprising their roles as some of the most skilled field hockey players in the NESCAC, the women have been maximizing each day of their shortened preseason, holding two- and three-a-day practices starting at the crack of dawn.

Head Coach Katharine DeLorenzo is back for her 10th season with the Panthers, and has been hard at work whipping her first-years into shape to get ready for their season opener against Tufts. After a decade of coaching the Middlebury team, "DeLo," as she is affectionately known by her athletes, has lost no steam in her determination to bring her team to victory.

The addition of six new first-year players has proven a key factor in shaping the positive outlook of the team for the coming season. Maddie Brooks '13, Molly Downey '13, Margaret Souther '13, Lauren Greer '13, Becky Dobson '13 and Charlotte Gardiner '13 com-

prise a group that co-captain Mullery Doar '10 described as really strong and very talented. "We have a lot of feisty forwards this year," said Doar.

Despite the field hockey program's history of success and the season's bright outlook, the team has encountered several obstacles early in the season. Due to the shortened preseason schedule, the women were forced to hold practices at the same time as first-year orientation. As the first-years moved into their dorms, the athletes had to choose between field hockey and orientation activities.

"We struggled throughout preseason to balance first-year orientation with practices," said Doar. "We missed out on a lot of bonding time — usually during preseason there is no one else on campus, but this year the first-years had many scheduling conflicts. Still, the group is so strong that we are looking forward to a great season, starting with this weekend's game against Tufts."

—Emma Gardner, Sports Editor

## MEN'S SOCCER

The Middlebury men's soccer program has been the epitome of excellence over the past several seasons. A 2007 national championship followed by a deep postseason run last fall has kept the Panthers in the preseason favorite discussion for 2009.

"The team is looking strong and everyone is really excited about the upcoming season," said co-captain Colin Nangle '10. "We have a great group of guys coming back and the incoming group seems really talented."

According to the NCAA National Rankings, Middlebury enters the 2009 season as the sixth best team in Division-III men's soccer. Middlebury fell to Stevens Institute in sectionals last season, but was plagued by injuries and, lacking key players, was not the team that had ranked near the top nationally all season.

As with every season, the men will need some young guys to step up and fill in for the graduating talent. The biggest question is who is ready to take over in goal for graduate and back-to-back first team All-American Brian Bush '09. Multi-sport prodigy Tim Cahill '12 is the heir apparent, but there is a crop of first-year players looking to prove themselves as well.

On defense, the Panthers look to be as

strong as ever. Though the team graduated leader and defensive stalwart Corey Moffatt '09, Nangle is poised to anchor the defense and build on his second-team All-New England season in 2008.

Andrew Banadda '10 and Mike Spiak '10 also return to continue their strong play in the midfield. The two emerged last season as great facilitators and two-way players needed to control the middle of the field.

On offense, standout Tyler Macnee '12 looks to best his 13 goals from last year's campaign.

While it is easy to put the spotlight on individuals and statistics, this year's squad is keenly aware that it will take a team effort to win games.

"The group is really gelling," noted Zach Smith '10. "Nobody sees himself above the team and that has been crucial to our success."

Though the team has only been back on the pitch for a little over a week, Nangle was quick to point out that preseason has gone well. "We are getting better each day," he said. "We won both of our scrimmages this past week against Skidmore and Hamilton which was a great way to start the season."

—Jeb Burchenal, Staff Writer



## Middlebury remembers lacrosse legend Kohn

By Emma Gardner

SPORTS EDITOR

Longtime Middlebury lacrosse field manager Peter Kohn failed to recover after a heart attack on Aug. 1 that hospitalized him.

Kohn, part of the Middlebury family for over two decades, left an indelible impression upon those he met and inspired. Before arriving at the College in 1981, Kohn spent years mentoring teams and players at every level of the game. He managed six world teams and 32 all-star games, became known for his generous spirit and tireless loyalty and demonstrated a passion for lacrosse that touched generations of players. Today, the women's field-hockey and lacrosse field bears his name.

"He was the heart and soul of the lacrosse program," said women's lacrosse tri-captain Blair Bowie '09. "You could meet any alumna from the past 40 years of Middlebury lacrosse and talk to her for hours and hours about Peter; he brought people together like that. Essentially, he represented the epitome of pure love of sport for no other reason than the joy of playing."

Kohn maintained a subtle but powerful presence throughout the lacrosse world. His far-reaching contributions to the sport were formally commended in 2004 when he was inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

Despite receiving numerous accolades and widespread recognition for his outstanding role in the lacrosse community, Kohn remained humble, genuine and focused on his players.

The Baltimore native is the subject of the 2005 award-winning documentary "Keeper of the Kohn." The film's title is drawn from a longstanding College tradition in which a "keeper," typically a first-year lacrosse athlete, would get selected to care for Kohn, who suffered from mild autism, in the same way he tended the team. Few ever considered the keeper's responsibilities a chore; to the contrary, to spend time with Kohn was to befriend a hero.

"Sorting through years of pictures and memorabilia from hundreds of teams, Pete had a story to go along with every single item," said co-captain Jeff Begin '10. "He had been with our program for much longer than we had, and knew more than we could imagine about what it meant to be a part of a team. Whether we were winning or losing, pre-game or post-game, or just huddling up after practice, Pete always kept us in check and reminded us that there's more to the sport than the scoreboard."

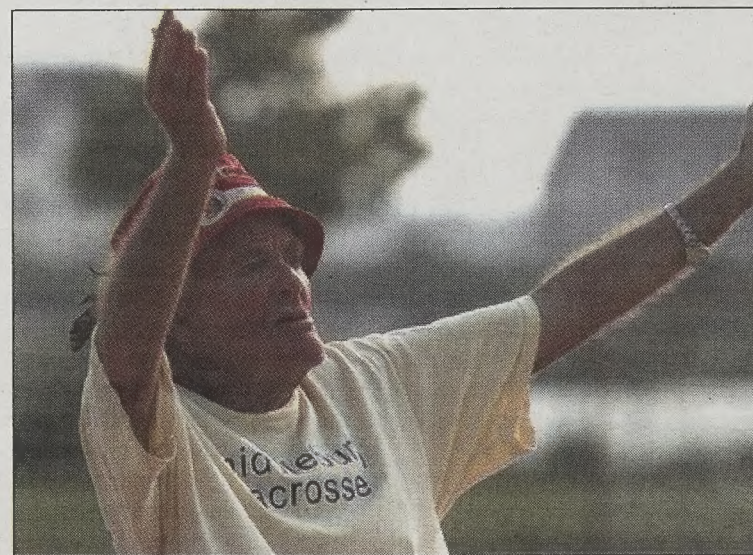
"[Kohn] was a great motivator and always spoke about putting the team above the individual, as well as the importance of respecting your team and opponents," said

former captain Mike Stone '09. "Being a Keeper of the Kohn [as a first-year], I felt honored to help Pete and was able to spend more time with him. During that time I realized how smart Pete was, and even though he was limited by his illness he was impressively intelligent and witty. He did not take the care he was given for granted and consistently spoke of how lucky he was to have people around him who cared about him. He selflessly put others before himself and cared about the well-being of those around him."

"He never asked for anything in return," added co-captain Pete Smith '10. "He was dedicated and caring, contributing everything in his capacity — whether it was encouraging us with 'Let's Go Big Blue, Let's Go' or providing us with an assortment of gum before every game, something he loved to do."

Bowie stressed the impact Kohn continued to have on athletes, even in his absence.

"When we were in Vail [last month at a lacrosse event], we played in a game where we were down until about the last five minutes when there was a lightning delay. Some people on the team wanted to just forfeit, but [tri-captain Taryn Petrelli '09] said, 'How would we explain that to Peter?' And she was right — because in Peter's eyes, every chance to play was a gift."



Peter Kohn never failed to raise the spirits of Middlebury athletes and fans.



Photos Courtesy of Middlebury Athletic Communications. A longtime mentor to student athletes, Kohn offered a unique kind of wisdom.

## Athletes feel the pressure of a busy preseason schedule

By Katie Siegner

SPORTS EDITOR

Fall athletes returning to Middlebury early are accustomed to dedicating themselves completely to their respective sports. This year, however, team schedules had to be worked around first-year orientation, which coincided with preseason rather than occurring a few days after athletes reported to school.

Many athletes noticed and wondered about the later start to preseason, which is the result of several factors including the different schedule for this academic year and a Labor Day holiday that fell later than usual.

Coaches had to be flexible due to this new scheduling constraint and had to schedule practices around orientation events. This resulted in early morning and night sessions, yet while the schedule was different, athletes and coaches alike accepted the changes with forbearance.

Six a.m. practice "wasn't that bad," said football player Steve Marino '12. "Practice times were a little off, but it was fine."

While coaches found scheduling practice was to be a challenge, for the most part they too adjusted admirably to the new practice hours and constraints imposed on their schedules. Women's soccer Head Coach Peter Kim summarized his team's stoic attitude.

"We go with the mentality that we overcome every obstacle in our way," said Kim.

Nevertheless, some scheduling conflicts could not be avoided. The women's soccer team traveled to Montreal to play in two preseason scrimmages without their new first-years, who remained at Middlebury to brave the chaos and claustrophobia of class registration in Kenyon Arena. Preseason also continued into the start of school, as cuts were not made until Tuesday.

First-years trying out for fall sports had a tricky job balancing the rigorous demands of their team's practice schedules with the social and academic orientation activities.

"Having a shorter preseason that completely overlapped with freshmen orientation was an adjustment because we had to work around these other commitments and distractions while trying to get to know our new players," said volleyball player Caroline Cordle '12.

The different preseason atmosphere was the source of widespread speculation among fall athletes. Margo Cramer '12, a cross country runner, assumed that the shorter preseason "was probably because of budget cuts." But in reality, the start date of preseason varies depending on the date of Labor Day and the start of classes. Because Labor Day occurred later than usual this year, adjustments to the preseason schedule had to be made.



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

### FALL SPORTS ADAPT TO A SHORTENED PRESEASON

Despite a shortened preseason, Middlebury's athletes are gearing up for what promises to be a particularly competitive season, with new talent tearing up the turf across the board.

Although teams' preseason schedules overlapped with other events such as orientation and the start of school, Director of Athletics Erin Quinn noted that "men's and women's soccer, field hockey, volleyball and cross country all follow a NESCAC-wide formula" in which they are allowed "13 practices before their first contest."

Football also follows NESCAC guidelines for the number of practices they can have during preseason, as well as NCAA Division III rules that dictate how many practices the team can have each day. This sched-

uling remains unchanged for the upcoming season.

Despite scheduling conflicts and unusual practice hours, players and coaches remain confident that they are well prepared for their respective season openers. Women's soccer tri-captain Lindsay Walker '10 said that their team is excited about the "great group of freshmen coming in," and throughout the fall sports teams a flexible attitude and a determination to succeed this season overpower the difficulties caused by the scheduling conflicts during preseason.

### this week in sports

**Inside the Locker Room:**  
**Bruce Hallett '10**  
Who knows the senior cross-country star better? p. 21



**games to watch**  
Men's soccer, women's soccer and field hockey vs. Tufts  
Saturday, Sept. 12 at 2 p.m.



**Fall sports preview:**  
Look inside to see which varsity teams will dominate the competition this fall, pp. 22-23.